Healthcare Informatics: Improving Efficiency And Productivity

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Healthcare Informatics: Improving Efficiency and Productivity examines the complexities involved in managing resources in our healthcare system and explains how management theory and informatics applications can increase efficiencies in various functional areas of healthcare services. Delving into data and project management and advanced analytics, this book details and provides supporting evidence for the strategic concepts that are critical to achieving successful healthcare information technology (HIT), information management, and electronic health record (EHR) applications. This includes the vital importance of involving nursing staff in rollouts, engaging physicians early in any process, and developing a more receptive organizational culture to digital information and systems adoption.

We owe it to ourselves and future generations to do all we can to make our healthcare systems work smarter, be more effective, and reach more people. The power to know is at our fingertips; we need only embrace it. "From the foreword by James H. Goodnight, PhD, CEO, SAS

Bridging the gap from theory to practice, it discusses actual informatics applications that have been incorporated by various healthcare organizations and the corresponding management strategies that led to their successful employment. Offering a wealth of detail, it details several working projects, including:

- A computer physician order entry (CPOE) system project at a North Carolina hospital
- E-commerce self-service patient check-in at a New Jersey hospital
- The informatics project that turned a healthcare system’s paper-based resources into digital assets
- Projects at one hospital that helped reduce excesses in length of stay, improved patient safety; and improved efficiency with an ADE alert system
- A healthcare system’s use of algorithms to identify patients at risk for hepatitis

Offering the guidance that healthcare specialists need to make use of various informatics platforms, this book provides the motivation and the proven methods that can be adapted and applied to any number of staff, patient, or regulatory concerns.

Book Information

File Size: 11206 KB
Print Length: 280 pages
Publisher: CRC Press; 1 edition (April 26, 2010)
Publication Date: April 26, 2010
Sold by: Digital Services LLC
Language: English
ASIN: B00BX8QZMA
With a real need for "healthcare informatics", this is an excellent book and a must read..."As a 20+ year healthcare IT professional working specifically on electronic health record (EHR) applications as well as the ongoing analysis of this data, I have come to realize the immense problems the healthcare industry is facing today because of the ongoing proliferation of data. With the seemingly endless stream of patient, doctor, healthcare provider, insurance company, and drug manufacture data, the industry has created a real void as well as an opportunity to tap into the huge data store in an attempt to bring real positive change regarding needed efficiencies to the industry. I have found that being able to frame this real life problem has been a challenge until reading Dr. Stephen Kudyba's excellent text "Healthcare Informatics: Improving Efficiency and Productivity". I was amazed at how quickly and precisely Dr. Kudyba’s text not only framed the problem but discussed possible solutions to tackling the problem as well as provided real life examples of applications and processes in use today which are addressing the problem head-on. He does a great job of going beyond theory to actual practice by identifying informatics applications that have been incorporated by healthcare organizations. Two examples in particular from the book which resonated with me was the example of an informatics project that turned a healthcare system's paper-based resources into digital assets as well as the example of the E-commerce self-service patient check-in application which was implemented at a New Jersey hospital. Honestly its one thing to discuss problems and propose possible solutions, but Dr Kudyba's book goes beyond that by identifying "real" solutions in use today.

In a forward to this book James Goodnight, CEO of SAS asks: "How is it possible that one of the largest economic forces and ethical priorities on the planet -healthcare- is not a leading example of
using information technology?“ It is clear to those working in the healthcare industry that the clinical and cultural transformation to health informatics has been painfully slow. This book is a well rounded work that talks about the recent initiatives that are addressing this issue, namely how information technology, information management, improving process efficiency and productivity are growing in importance in healthcare organizations. It addresses the business and operations side as well as the patient side. Several noteworthy practitioners in various healthcare organizations have contributed to the book edited by Dr Stephan Kudyba. A major advantage of this collection of works entails the valuable information that contributors have shared on architecting, implementation, and optimization of healthcare informatics along with recommendations based on their experiences and case studies. Topics such as project management, electronic health records (EHR), computer physician order entry (CPOE), and nursing informatics are well covered. Informatics is not just about business processes and efficiency. The application of health informatics to improve patient safety and clinical outcomes are also discussed. Healthcare executives (including CMIOs) interested in investment in information technology for best treatment and best outcome at least cost should definitely read this book. This book will be useful to managers in physician organizations, provider care organizations, and health insurance companies.

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