

Title:

SPECIAL SESSION: Advancing Nursing Informatics to Improve Healthcare Quality and Outcomes

Type:

Oral

Presenter:

Sensmeier, Joyce E.

Keywords:

Innovation, Leadership and Nursing Informatics

Summary:

Nurses must work with our informatics colleagues and apply technology and innovation to transform the way we deliver care. This session describes how collaboration, knowledge, innovation and leadership can advance the use of health IT systems and devices that improve healthcare quality and outcomes for individuals and populations.

Abstract Text:

Nurses play an important role in leveraging health information technology (IT) to improve patient safety, quality and efficiency of care delivery. Deployment of technology is not simply the result of a decision about software and hardware. Instead, technology adoption should address areas that need improvement, thus leading an organization towards clinical transformation. Nurses have the right competencies and skills to drive these changes and their leadership is a necessary component for achieving success. As I look back on my career, it is through this lens that I have made a sustained contribution to nursing. We must work with our informatics colleagues and apply technology and innovation to transform the way we deliver care. Through collaboration, knowledge and leadership we can ensure that health IT systems and devices enable nurses to be more efficient and ultimately improve healthcare quality and outcomes for individuals and populations.

Nurses can also play an important role in helping patients understand and navigate emerging electronic tools such as personal health records (PHR) or patient portals. Ease of use and accessibility are essential for consumer engagement, and nurses should encourage their healthcare organizations to invest in user friendly, secure portals and standards-based PHR systems. As technology becomes more pervasive, nurses should be advocates of these new avenues for engaging patients in acquiring credible information and gaining knowledge.

Nurses must also prepare themselves to practice in new and innovative ways. Future practice models may require a shift in roles and responsibilities where patients are active and knowledgeable partners, working together with their care providers in a technology-enhanced practice environment. Nurses must develop the necessary informatics competencies and act upon these new information management demands.

Successfully acquiring these skills and embedding them in nursing practice will also enable patients to achieve their health goals and improve their quality of life.

Today, most health records are stored in multiple locations, maintained by multiple providers, and recorded in both paper and electronic format. This lack of interoperability compounds our ability to ensure accuracy or availability of the information, thereby compromising healthcare quality. Nurses are active participants in most transitions of care, intuitively bridging information gaps where technology or processes may not support workflow. Often the concepts of data standards and health information exchange are viewed as too complex. However, nurses must be savvy enough to advocate for information systems that deliver the right information, about the right patient, at the right time and in the right location.

This session will describe the evolution and importance of nursing informatics practice for improving patient safety and health outcomes. The value of nursing leadership and interprofessional collaboration in advancing technology and innovation in healthcare will also be emphasized. Key interoperability initiatives will be described that support workflow and improve clinician and consumer access to essential data and information.

Slot:

E 21: Sunday, 29 October 2017: 4:15 PM-5:00 PM

References:

Shaw, T., Sensmeier, J. & Anderson, C. (2017). The Evolution of the TIGER Initiative. CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing, 35(6), 278-280.

McCormick, K., Gugerty, B. & Sensmeier, J. (2017). A Comparison of Professional Informatics-Related Competencies and Certifications. Online Journal of Nursing Informatics (OJNI), 21(1), Available at <http://www.himss.org/ojni>

Sensmeier, J. (2017). Navigating Health Data Standards and Interoperability. In *Health Information Technology, Second Edition*, McCormick, K.A, Editor, McGraw-Hill, USA. In Press.

Sensmeier, J. (2016). Make the most of health IT. Nursing Management: Safety Solutions 47(12), 32-35.

Collins, S., Sensmeier, J., Weaver, C., & Murphy, J. (2016). Speaking with one voice: Alliance for Nursing Informatics policy responses 2016 update. CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing, 34(11), 490-492.

Sensmeier, J. (2016). Understanding the impact of big data on nursing knowledge. *Nursing 2016 Critical Care*, 11(2), 11-13.

Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
Describe the evolution and importance of nursing informatics practice for improving patient safety and health outcomes	Describe the evolution of the Scope and Standards of Nursing Informatics Practice. Discuss the formation and impact of key nursing informatics groups, activities.
Discuss the value of nursing leadership and collaboration for advancing technology and innovation in healthcare	Describe the role and impact of the Alliance for Nursing Informatics as a unified voice for nursing informatics. Define the TIGER Initiative and its role in education reform and interprofessional community development.
Recognize the impact of data and standards on health information exchange	Describe key interoperability initiatives that support workflow and improve access to data information and knowledge.