About the series

At Health care experts rapidly face a tsunami of data-driven demands, a shared vocabulary is not just a luxury—it’s a necessity. We need a language that’s simple enough to apply the right insights right in the job setting, but rich enough that every part of the delivery system is connected and understands what other parts of the network needs will be critical for efficient delivery. In this feature, we’ll be looking at three of these communications breakdowns and providing a checklist with valuable real-world solutions.

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Clearing the Barriers to Hospital–Physician Practice

BY JOHN MOWRISSEY

M uch of the increased demand for care experienced in hospitals and in physicians’ offices is driven by the volume of unstructured data that are critical to the financial and operational success of a medical practice, according to EHR and practice management consultants. As a result, the entire ecosystem of medicine is struggling to manage the volume of patient data and provider data.

Practitioners need to manage this growing volume of unstructured data, which includes everything from notes and images to lab results and other critical data. The amount of data is so vast, in fact, that it can be overwhelming to even attempt to sort through it all.

The futility of making sense of all this information is well documented in the Journal of the American Medical Association, which notes that the average physician spends three hours per day on charting and documentation.

This is not just a problem for individual physicians, but it’s also a problem for hospitals. As hospitals become more data-driven, they face the challenge of integrating the data from various sources, including patient charts, lab results, and other clinical data.

One of the biggest challenges is ensuring that all the data is accurate and up-to-date, which can be difficult when there are multiple sources of data and different workflows.

In order to address these challenges, hospitals and physicians need to develop a more structured approach to managing unstructured data. This requires a shift in mindset, from thinking of data as a burden to seeing it as a valuable asset.

The solution lies in creating a unified approach to data management, one that is streamlined and efficient. This means investing in technology that can help automate data entry and reduce the time spent on charting.

In addition, hospitals and physicians need to work together to ensure that all the data is accurate and up-to-date. This can be achieved through regular data audits and by establishing clear communication channels between the two parties.

By taking these steps, hospitals and physicians can improve the efficiency of their operations and provide better care for their patients.

Competing priorities dwarf continuous connection

Two case studies

Active meaningful use

Optimizing use of current systems

Leveraging information

Focus on clinical systems

Completing full 270s to transition

Interoperability

Evaluating into with other entities

Access to ambulatory systems

Health care consumer issues

Secure patient information sharing

Integration of IT and medical devices

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