



Clinical Informatics: A New Frontier for PAs

Disclosures

▶ None

Objectives

Learning Objective #1:	Introduction to the emerging field of clinical informatics and the role CI will play in the evolution of healthcare.
Learning Objective #2:	Identify the qualities and competencies of PAs that translate into a clinical informatics role.
Learning Objective #3:	Understand the important role of clinical informatics in realizing optimal team practice and team Efficiencies.



Polling Questions

- ▶ Know what EHR stands for?
- ▶ How many started practicing or trained on with paper charts?
- ▶ Worked with IT or CI on improvement projects or have an informal role working on quality improvement projects?
- ▶ Have formal Roles in informatics (protected FTE/Job Description)?
- ▶ Who has an interest in a career in Clinical informatics?

We went from.....



To....



Information Sharing and data exchange

From.....



Information Sharing and data exchange

To....



American Medical Informatics Association Perspective

www.amia.org



What is Biomedical and Health Informatics?

Introduction

Biomedical and health informatics applies principles of computer and information science to the understanding of the sciences research, health professions education, public health, and patient care. This multidisciplinary and integrative field focuses on health information technologies (IT), and studies the complex biological and social systems.

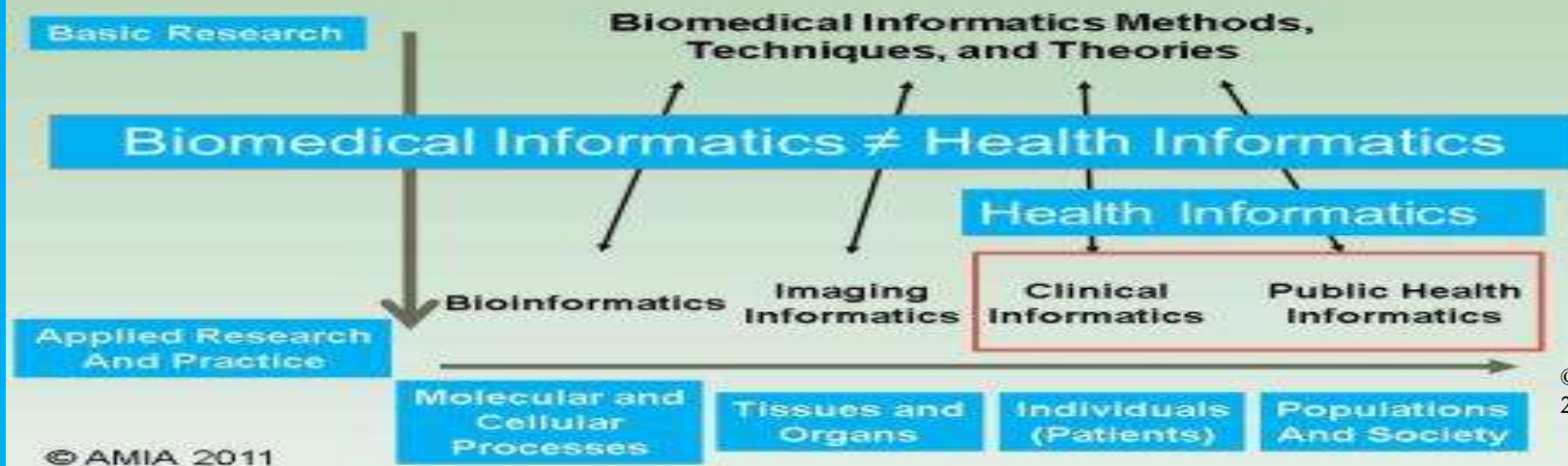
Informatics is the science of how to use data, information and knowledge to improve human health and the delivery of health care services. Health IT is part of informatics and an essential aspect of AMIA. The technology and technical considerations are only one component of the association's work. Health IT enables improvements to health care by providing the tools with which to use knowledge in culture. Biomedical and health informatics has developed its own areas of emphasis and approaches that sets it apart from other professions and disciplines. Biomedical informatics (BI) is the interdisciplinary scientific field that studies and pursues the effective use of biomedical data, information, and knowledge for scientific inquiry, problem solving and decision making, motivated by efforts to improve human health.

- BIH develops, studies and applies theories, methods and processes for the generation, storage, retrieval, use, and sharing of biomedical data, information, and knowledge.
- BIH studies the computing, communication and information sciences and technologies and their application in biomedicine.
- BIH integrates and facilitates measuring, modeling, simulation, experimentation and transfer across the spectrum from molecules to populations, dealing with a variety of biological systems, imaging and clinical research and practice, and the healthcare enterprise.
- BIH researchers that engage with the clinical world of biomedical informatics, draw upon the social and behavioral sciences to inform the design and evaluation of technical systems, and the creation of computer systems, clinical, social, educational, and organizational systems.

The growing role of HIT has created the need to broaden and deepen the pool of workers who are able to help organizations that ally with their investment in information technology. This, combined with the pressure for major improvements in the safety, quality, effectiveness and efficiency of care, biomedical and health informatics reinforced the resolve of organizations as well as the persistence and production of information technology. Informaticians conduct research and apply findings to improve processes and propose solutions to technical, clinical, and organizational challenges hampering successful technology implementations.

About AMIA
AMIA is the center of action for more than 4,000 health care professionals, informatics researchers and thought leaders in biomedical, health care and informatics. AMIA is a premier, international forum with the informatics community and the health care industry. AMIA and its members are transforming health care through shared science, education and patient transformation and health informatics.

Biomedical Informatics in Perspective



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2013

Definition

Clinical Informatics is the field that promotes the understanding, integration, and application of information technology in healthcare settings

Innovation in Technology – what's coming next

Mobile Technology and Remote Monitoring

Basic models of TeleHealth



Synchronous

- Live, bi-directional interaction between a patient and care provider
- E.g., video conferencing, patient or provider consultation, health education & training



Store-and-forward

- Transmission of information to be reviewed / consumed at a later time
- e.g., clinical results, images, patient portals



Remote Monitoring

- Medical data collected from patient in a remote location and consumed by a provider in another location for care and care support
- Examples: remote monitoring with TeleConsults



Mobile Health / Wearables

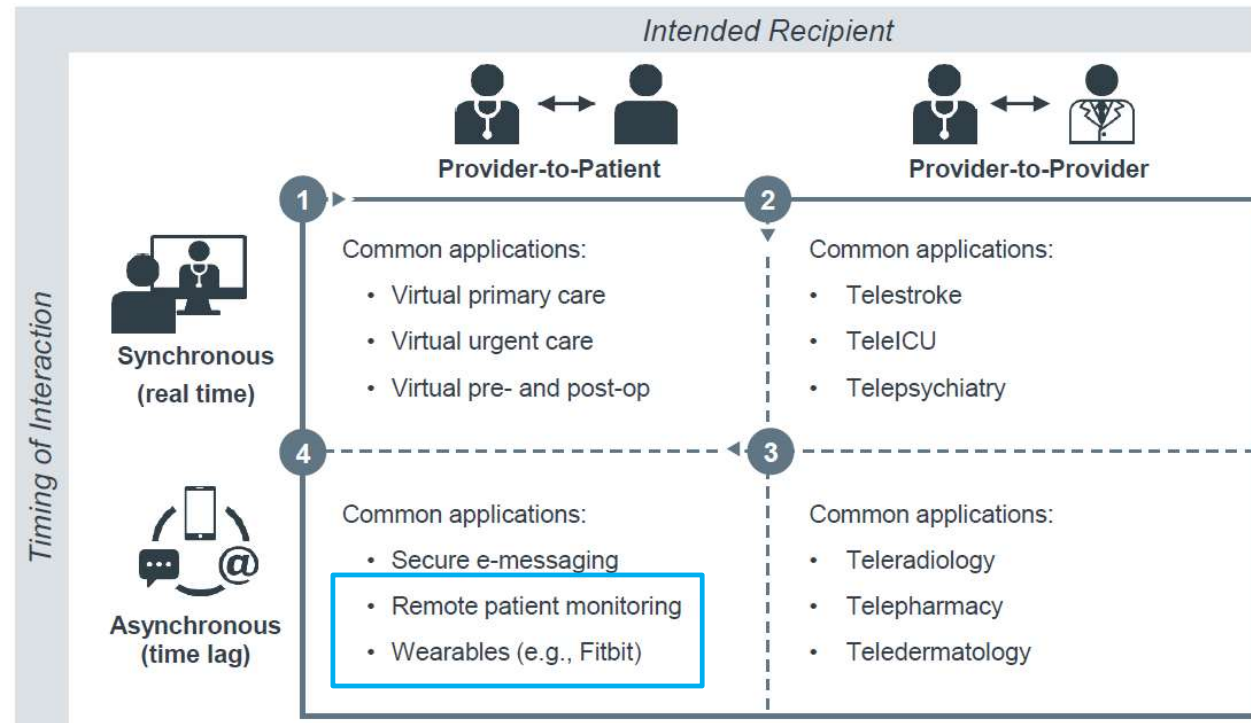
- Care supported by mobile devices that promote healthy behaviors, alerts, reminders and care management
- e.g., passive mobile health tracking / monitoring, mobile health & wellness applications

Basic models of TeleHealth

- Synchronous**
 - Live, bi-directional interaction between a patient and care provider
 - E.g., video conferencing, patient or provider consultation, health education & training
- Store-and-forward**
 - Transmission of information to be reviewed / consumed at a later time
 - e.g., clinical results, images, patient portals
- Remote Monitoring**
 - Medical data collected from patient at a remote location and consumed by a provider in another location for care and care support
 - Example: remote monitoring with TeleVitals
- Mobile Health / Wearables**
 - Care supported by mobile devices that promote healthy behavior, alert, monitor and care management
 - e.g., passive mobile health tracking / monitoring, mobile health & wellness applications

RPM is a Component of Telehealth (Virtual Care)

- Asynchronous
- Provider-to-Patient
- Wearables, Connected Devices and/or Manual Input



Basic models of TeleHealth

	Synchronous <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live, bidirectional interaction between a patient and care provider• E.g., video conferencing, patient or provider consultation, health education & training
	Store-and-forward <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transmission of information to be reviewed / consumed at a later time• E.g., clinical results, images, patient portals
	Remote Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical data collected from patient in a remote location and consumed by a provider in another location for care and care support• Example: remote monitoring with telephysicians
	Mobile Health / Wearables <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Care supported by mobile devices that promote healthy behavior, alerts, reminders and care management• E.g., passive mobile health tracking / monitoring, mobile health & wellness applications

mHealth

Mobile health (mHealth) is the “medical and public health practice supported by mobile devices, such as mobile phones, patient monitoring devices, personal digital assistants and wireless devices”

- * Mobile technologies, particularly smartphones, are extremely popular with all members of the healthcare team
- * Adding to the popularity:
 - * Improved speed, memory, wireless connectivity and shrinking form factor (size and shape)
 - * Affordable
 - * Constantly improving features
 - * Phone capability, email and access to Internet
 - * A myriad of mobile apps for consumers and clinicians

Wow! That happened fast



1990



1996



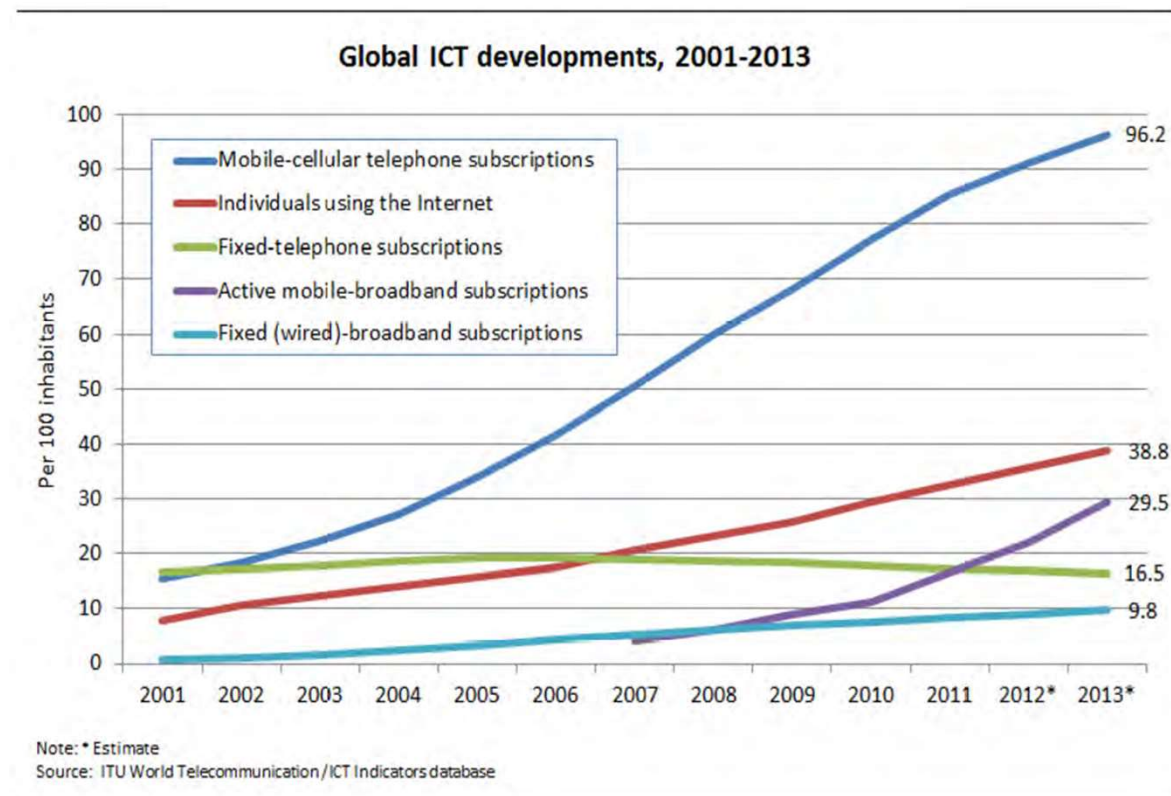
1999



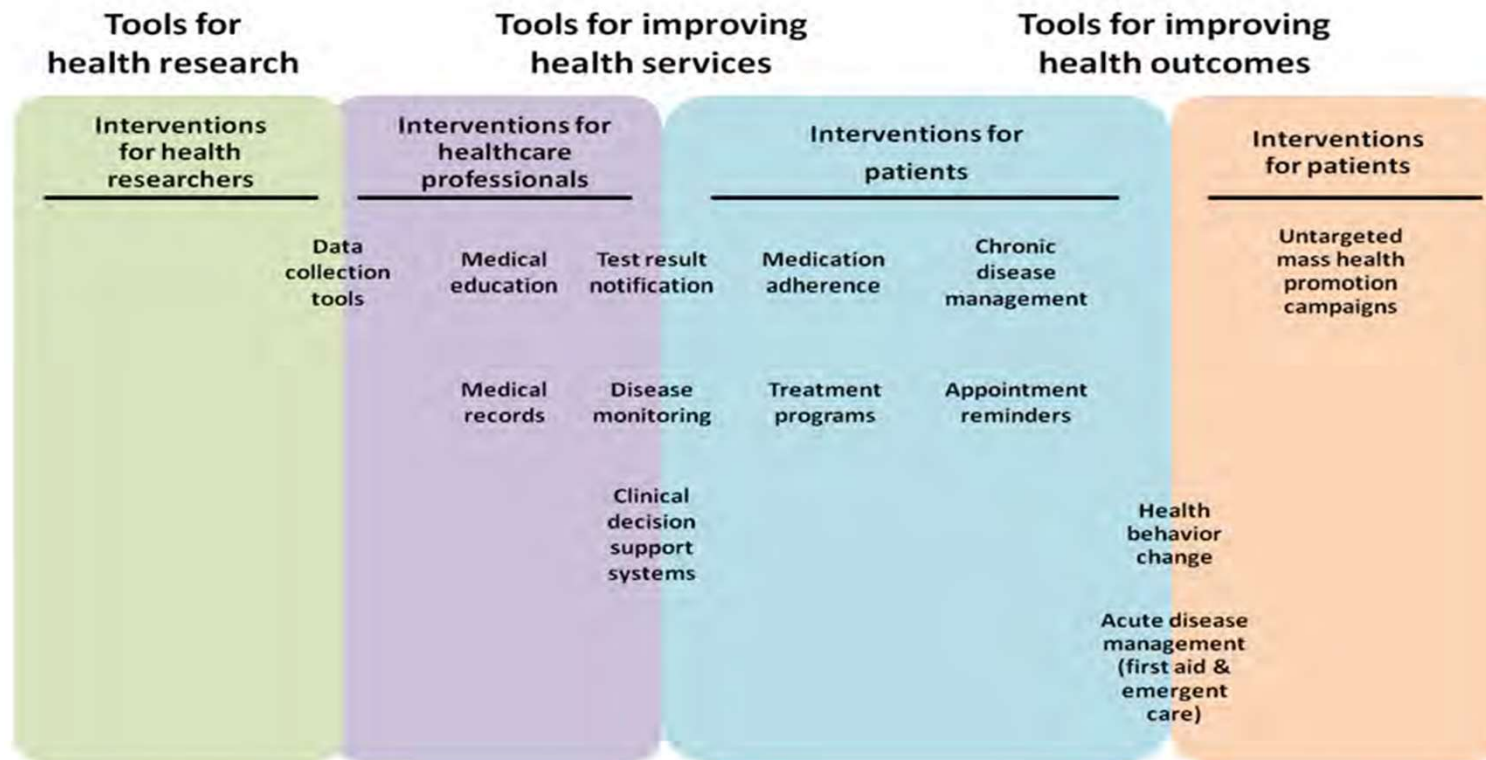
2000's

Evolution of Mobile Technology

- * 2G in 1990
- * 3G in 2001
- * 4 G in 2006
- * 5 G ? 2020



mHealth Conceptual framework



mHealth: Tools & Information Accessible Anywhere

– patients and providers

- Full function mobile apps are making information and interventions available anywhere
 - iTriage (Aetna, 2011) (shut down in 2018)
 - Personal health record on the phone
 - General and specific medical information
 - Health information library
 - Find facilities and providers
 - Means to influence choices – Featured providers
 - EHR Vendor patient apps - MyChart
 - Patient access to their health record
 - Ability to communicate with care givers
 - Clinician tools – Haiku/Rover
 - Access to records
 - Place orders



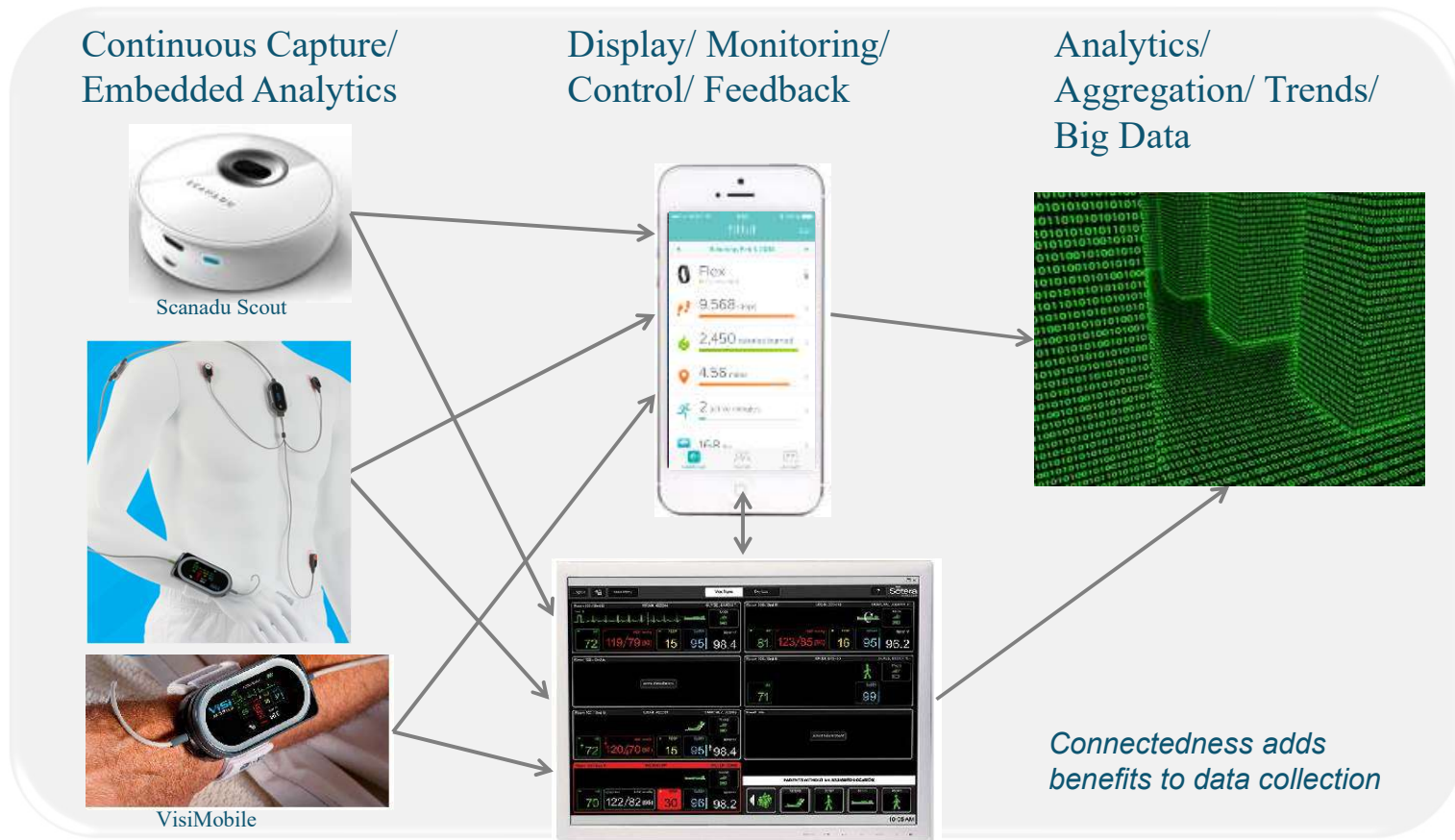
► Sources: iTriage app, Epic MyChart and Rover apps

Mobile Technology to Track Health Habits and Physiological Signs

- * “New” movement (“wearable HIT” and “quantified self”)
- * New devices and sensors to monitor diet, exercise, sleep, heart rate, respiratory rate, oxygen level, skin temperature, hydration, etc.
- * Oriented towards patients
- * Communicate with smartphone via Bluetooth LE
- * Smart watches - a new platform
 - * Heart rate, oxygen level, temperature, EKG, heart rate variability and pulse wave transit time



Engaged Patients: Ongoing & Continuous Monitoring



“Clinical” Connected Devices

Computers or computer interfaces designed to be worn on or implanted in the body

Ranging from smartwatches and fitness trackers to head-mounted displays and exoskeletons

OMRON.					
Model Number	5 Series Wireless BP7250	Wireless BP HEM- 9210	Body Composition Monitor and Scale BCM-500	Wireless Digital Scale HN-290T	Astute Data Hub CTR-01 Hub
Bluetooth®	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cuff	Wide-Range D-Ring 9"-17"	Extra Large D-Ring 17"-20"			
Power Options	4 AA	4 AA	4 AAA	4 AA	Adapter
Body Weight Range			4.4 to 330 lbs.	88-550 lbs	

Freestyle Libre



MIR Spirobank Smart Spirometer



AliveCor®

Peace of mind in your pocket

Take a medical-grade EKG anytime, anywhere. In just 30 seconds, detect normal heart rhythm or AFib.

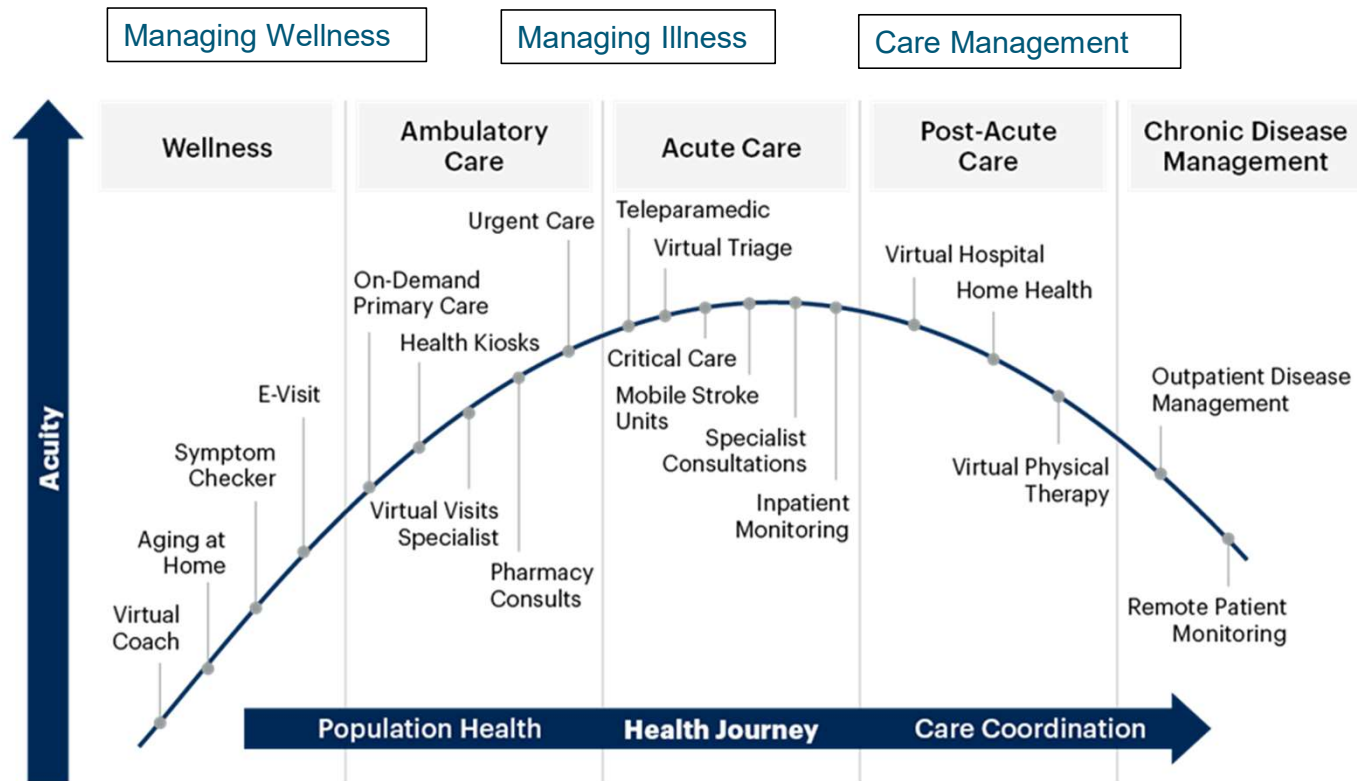
[VIEW DETAILS](#)



Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD)

- * **Increased work to have data that can be uploaded, analyzed and archived in an EHR**
- * **Reimbursement for the time spent reviewing is still an issue**
- * **Should the data be analyzed automatically by machine learning algorithms and posted on a patient dashboard?**
- * **Does PGHD change patient behavior?**

Providing Remote Solutions Throughout the Patient's Health Journey are Key to Adopting Consumer-Centric Processes



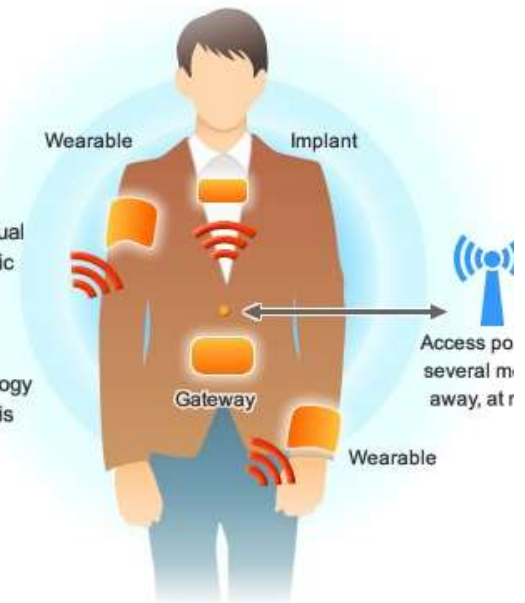
Source: Gartner
727464_C

What's Next....?



Body Area Network (BAN)

- Short-range wireless network for an individual
- Consists of wearable or implanted electronic devices that transmit ID or sensor data to a gateway device.
- Uses either electric-field, electric-current, or electromagnetic communication technology
- Connects to an external access point that is not more than several meters distant



What's Next....?

RPM Can Improve Quality of Life and Access to Care While Decreasing Costs

Supports the Triple Aim

- Improves the care experience by offering convenient care at home
- Supports better outcomes through data collection and proactive intervention
- Prevents avoidable emergency utilization and associated costs



Out-of-Office BP Measurements are Clinically Useful



- The diagnosis and management of hypertension have been based primarily on the measurement of BP in the office
- There is mounting evidence that out-of-office BP monitoring is a better predictor of long-term cardiovascular outcomes than office-based BP measurement
- Some studies recommend using out-of-office BP monitoring to confirm the diagnosis, aide in the titration of medications, and to rule out conditions such as white coat hypertension or masked hypertension
- Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring at Home
 - A Joint Policy Statement From the American Heart Association and American Medical Association, (Jun 2020)

<https://forums.org/commentary/terminology-what-do-we-mean-by-out-of-office-hypertension-guidelines/>

<https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/full/10.1161/CIR.0000000000000883>

Deaconess Health RPM Program Reduces Cost of Care by \$7.4MM

Program Evaluation

- Evaluate patients 6 months pre-enrollment and post-enrollment to determine program impact
 - They are reducing 30-day readmission and avoiding readmission penalties
 - Focus areas: CHF, COPD, Diabetes
- Goal is to help patients learn how to take care of themselves
- 90 days in avg length of stay on program
 - RPM helped the health system drop its 30-day readmission rate from 14% to 6%



<https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/deaconess-health-rpm-program-reduces-cost-care-74m>

Digital Health Can Improve Outcomes for Medicaid Patients with Chronic Conditions, Ochsner Study Says

► An Ochsner Health study

- On the effect of digital medicine and RPM on Medicaid patients with Type 2 diabetes and hypertension who participated in the health system's digital health pilot program

► The study showed that almost 50% of patients with out-of-control hypertension and 59% of patients with Type 2 diabetes were able to get their conditions under control in 90 days

- In Louisiana, 14% of the adult population has diabetes and 40% have hypertension



https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/digital-health/digital-health-can-improve-outcomes-for-medicaid-patients-with-chronic-conditions-ochsner-study.aspx?utm_source=CIO&utm_medium=email&utm_content=newsmarketplace&utm_id=940R3470378A65

Many Providers and Staff Are Still Skeptical



- **Will this translate into additional work?**
- **What happens if vitals or alerts are missed?**
- **What happens when alerts are received after hours and on weekends?**
- **What are the legal and liability concerns?**
- **How will I fit these new activities into my existing work when I'm already 150% allocated?**

Value of Clinical Informatics



Supporting the IHI Quadruple Aim
for Healthcare

$$\text{Value} = \frac{\text{Quality [Outcomes (ind + pop, mortality + QOL) + Experience (patient + provider)]}}{\text{Cost [Materials + Effort]}}$$

Health Equity

Value of Clinical Informatics

“Health Informatics is the interdisciplinary field that studies and pursues the effective uses of biomedical knowledge data, information, and for scientific inquiry, problem solving and decision making, motivated by efforts to improve human health”



Compliance



Quality and
Clinical
Standardization



Operational
Efficiency



Data Driven
Decision
Making



Provider
Well-being

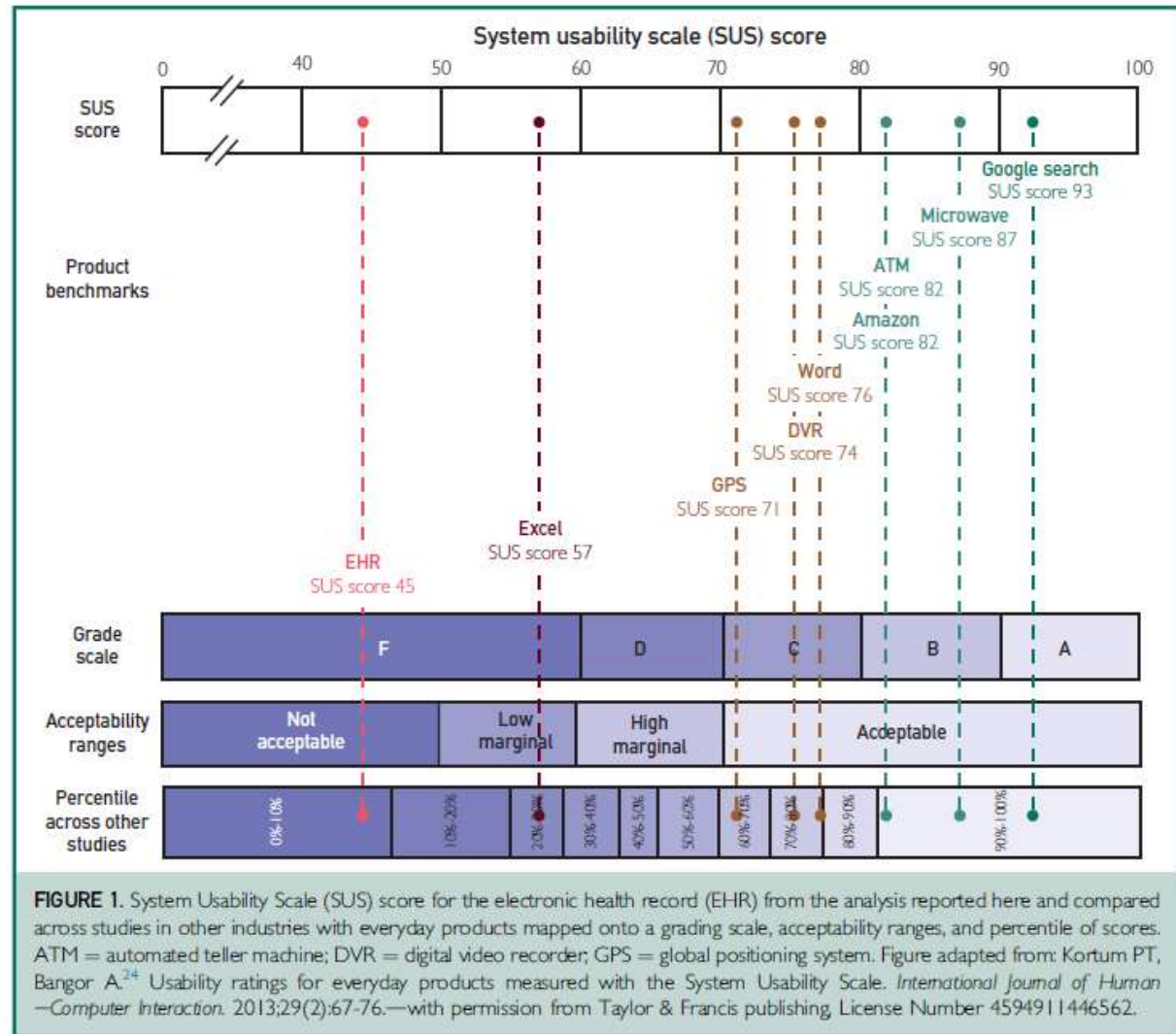


Communication



EHR Usability

- ▶ The interface between the EHR and a clinician preforms well below other technologies
- ▶ Requires devoted time and resources to take advantage of available tools/functionality



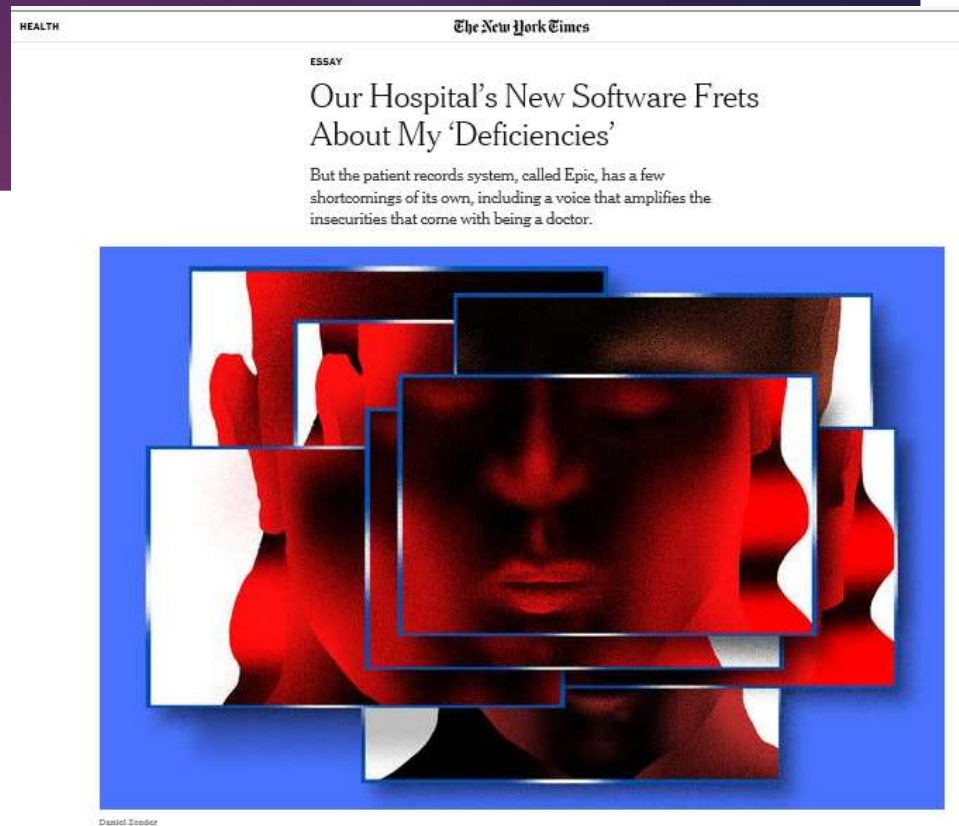
Impact of the EHR on Clinicians

Causes of provider burnout related to the use of EHRs:

- EHRs' documentation and related tasks
- EHRs' poor design
- Workload
- Overtime work (PJ time)
- Inbox alerts
- Alert fatigue

Consequences of provider burnout:

- Low-quality care
- Behavioral issues,
- Mental health complications,
- Substance abuse,
- Career dissatisfaction,
- Costly turnover,
- Decline in patient safety and satisfaction



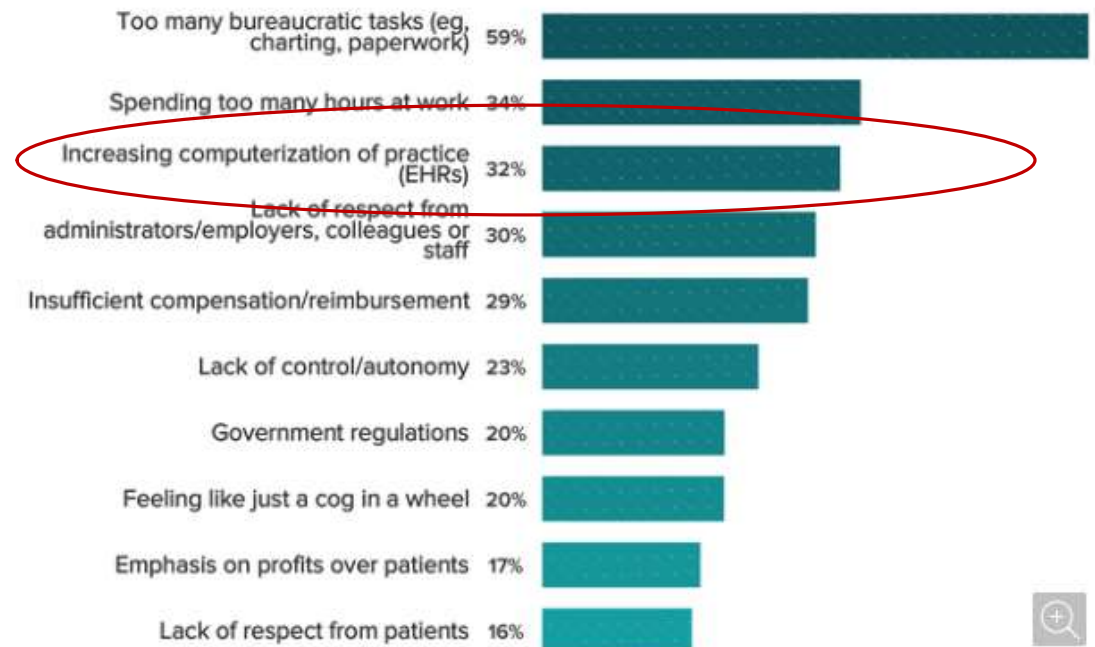
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/01/health/epic-electronic-health-records.html> published 11/1/19

EHR is the Ticket to Provider Wellness?



- Cognitive Overload → Clinician Burnout
 - Use of Electronic Health Records is a major driver of physician/APP dissatisfaction
 - 50% more time than the patient visit
 - 32% of physicians chose EHRs as the top contributor to their burnout ²
- Physician burnout costs the U.S. health care system \$4.6 billion a year ¹

What Contributes Most to Your Burnout?



¹ Han S, Shanafelt TD, Sinsky CA, et al. Estimating the Attributable Cost of Physician Burnout in the United States. *Ann Intern Med.* 2019;170:784–790. [Epub ahead of print 28 May 2019]. doi: <https://doi.org/10.7326/M18-1422>

² sdf Medscape National Physician Burnout, Depression, & Suicide Report 2019



KLAS ARCH Collaborative EHR Experience Pillars of Success



EHR House of Success Metrics

Do you agree...

Ongoing Education

- Overall, ongoing EHR training/education is helpful and effective

Meets Unique User Needs

- This EHR has the functionality for my specific specialty/clinical care focus

Shared Ownership

- Our organization has done a great job of implementing, training on, and supporting the EHR

Reliability

- This EHR is available when I need it (has almost no downtime)

Response Time

- This EHR has the fast system response time I expect

<https://klasresearch.com/archcollaborative>

Clinical Informatics Initiatives

Clinical Informatics **Is Not** IT

Informatics includes the use of IT, change management, human computer interactions, risk management, organizational behavior, workflow redesign, computable language, productivity improvement, safety, quality, evaluation, etc.



Mount Sinai Health System



42,000
Employees



1 Leading
Medical
School



\$9 B
Revenue
Annually



8 Hospitals

Icahn
School of
Medicine at
Mount Sinai



4.1M
Patient Visits
Annually



+400
Network
outpatient
practices



7,300
Physicians



Clinical Informatics

Bruce Darrow, MD, PhD
Senior Vice President, IT
Deputy CIO
Professor, Cardiology/Medicine Chief
Medical Information Officer (CMIO)

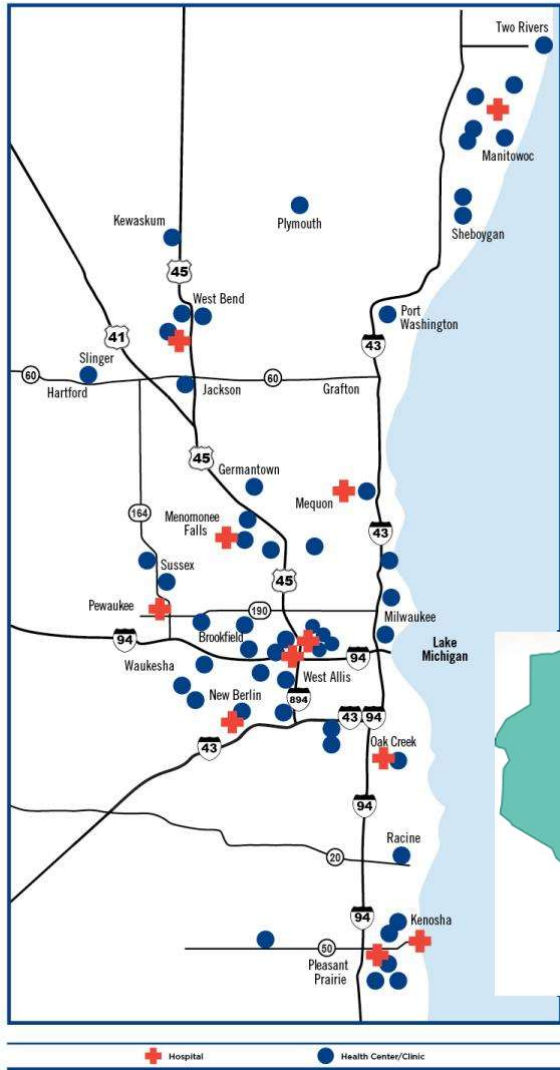
Kaishia Macklin
Project Coordinator I

Joseph Kannry MD
Lead Technical Informaticist

Avniel Shetreat-Klein, MD, PhD
Deputy CMIO
Epic Operations

Ed Robbins
IT Senior Site Director
MSBI, MSBI/Bklyn, MSW,
MSSL

Patti Cuartas, PA-C, MBA
Associate CMIO, Executive
Director
Information Technology



Froedtert & MCW

Vital Statistics

As of June 30, 2022

Beds
1,266

Patient Days of Care
322,626

Emergency Visits
194,671

Clinics
45

Physician Clinic Visits
1,172,710

Patient Admissions
58,056

Outpatient Visits
1,709,484

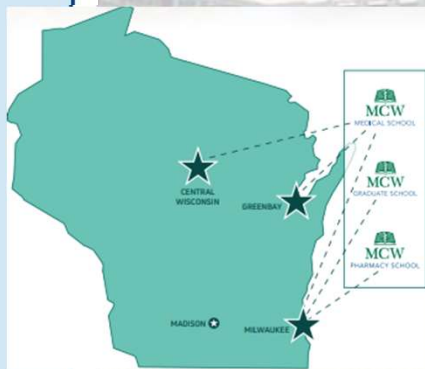
Hospitals
10

Physicians
2,100

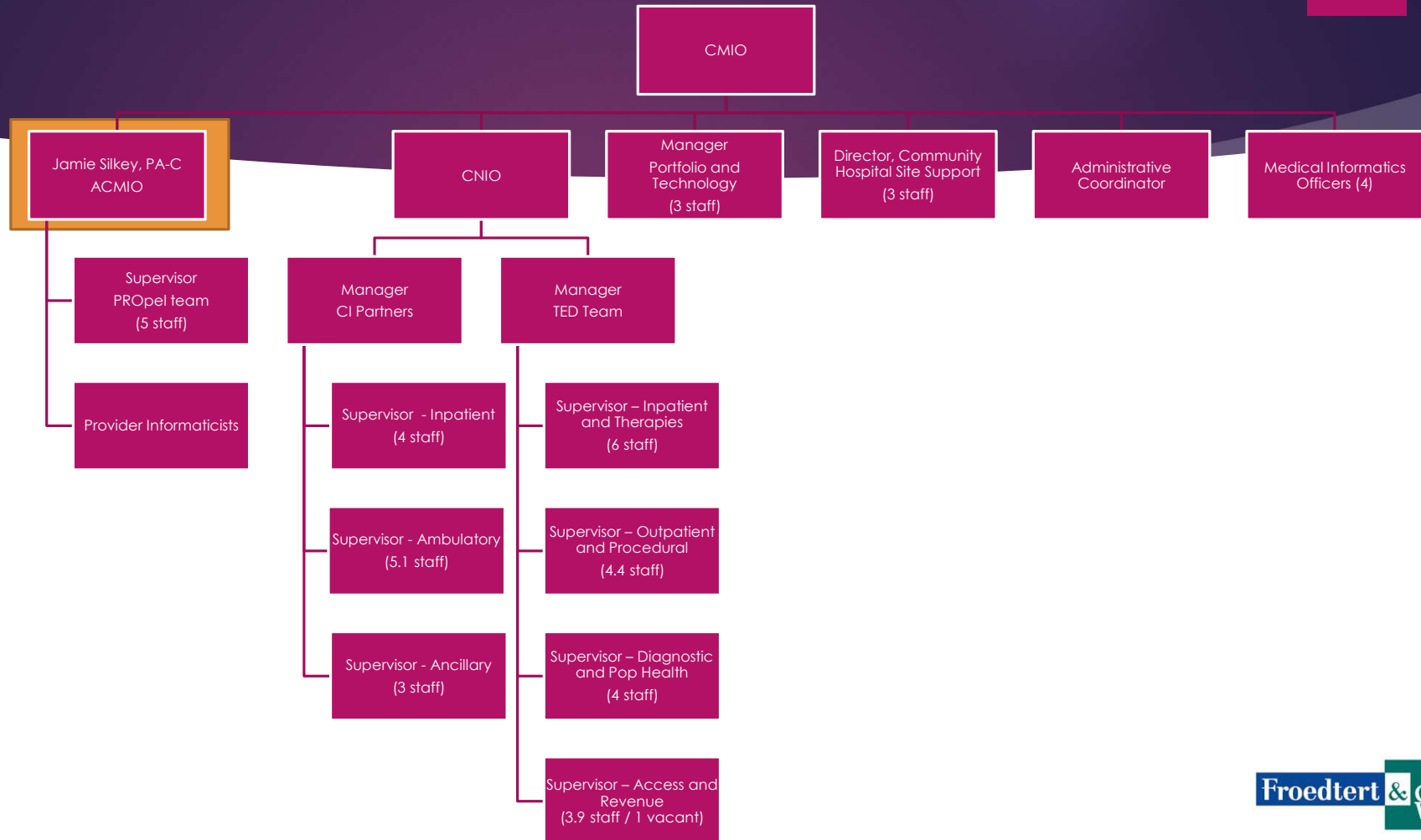
Nurses
4,526

Staff and Employed Physicians
16,974

APPs
650



F&MCW Enterprise Clinical Informatics



Provider Roles at F&MCW

Provider Informaticists

- Departmental/Specialty specific
- NEO Providers and efficiency support
- Project based
- Local SME

Module Champions

- EHR application specific
- Upgrades and Optimization of Workflows and tools
- End user Support

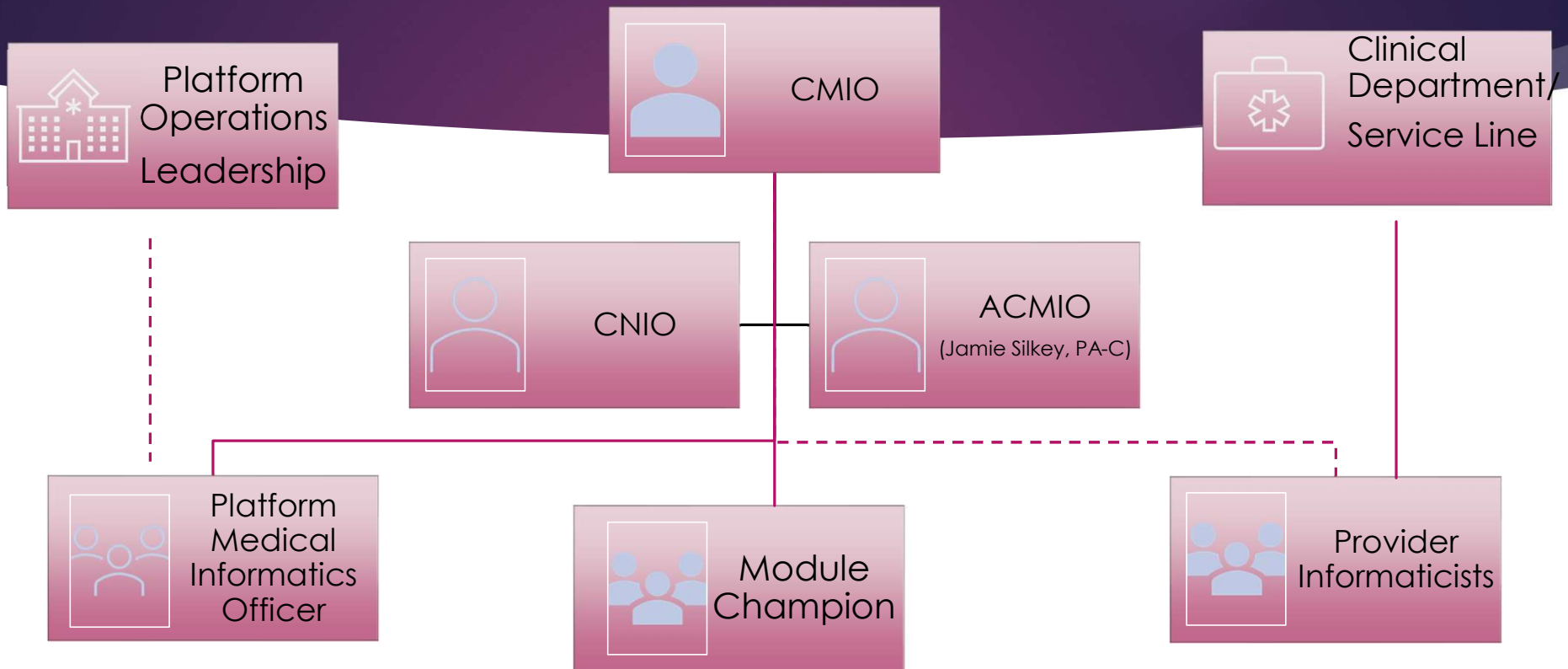
Medical Informaticist Officer

- Platform and Operational Facing (AMB/IP/SURG/PROC)
- Facilitate Prioritization with IT and Solutioning for end to end solutions
- Support Technology Adoption across the clinical environment

CMIO and Associate CMIO

- Programmatic Oversight
- Partner with IT and Organizational Leadership
- Strategic
- Governance

Reporting Structure



Provider CI Role in Decision Making

CMIO/ACMIO

Platform Medical
Informaticists Officer

Provider Informaticists
and Module
Champions

Executive CIGC:

- Program Development
- Institutional Priorities

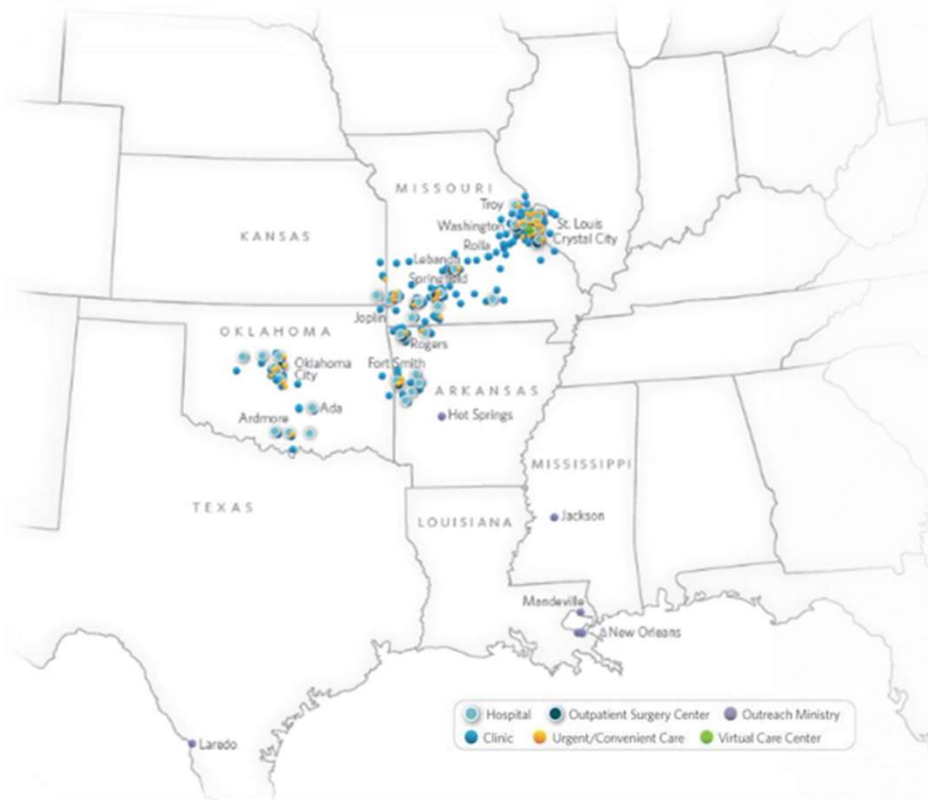
Sub- Steering Committees:

- Decisional IT+ Op +CI +Quality
- Change Management
- Prioritization and Resource Management

Workgroups:

- Epic Update Reviews
- Workflow Analysis
- Vet Enhancements

About Mercy Services & Locations



Hospitals & Ambulatory Sites

- 30 acute care hospitals
- 5 heart hospitals
- 5 rehab hospitals
- 2 children's hospitals
- 2 orthopedic hospitals
- 1 virtual care command center
- 857 physician practices
- 305 clinic locations
- 18 outpatient surgery centers
- 41 urgent care sites
- 13 convenient care centers

Medical Staff & Co-workers

- 43,000 co-workers including:
- 2,300+ integrated physicians
- 1,800+ integrated advanced practitioners

Utilization FY20

- 3,199 staffed beds
- 24,705 births
- 185,882 surgeries
- 199,138 inpatient discharges
- 11,148,338 clinic and outpatient visits
- 730,075 ED visits

Financial Information FY20

- \$6.3 billion total operating revenue
- \$4.2 billion total assets
- \$340 million community benefit/charity care



Clinical Informatics



Gavin Helton, MD
Senior VP
Population Health



Jeff Ciaramita, MD
Senior VP
Chief Physician Executive



John Mohart, MD
President
Mercy Communities



Scott Richert
CIO



Todd Craig, MD
VP Clinical Informatics



Betty Jo Rocchio, DNP
Senior VP
Chief Nursing Officer



Mike Potts, MD
Executive Director
Clinical Informatics
South Central



Damon Broyles, MD
VP Clinical Innovation
Clinical Informatics



Ed Chen, MD
Medical Director
Clinical Informatics
East



**Tracy Breece
MSN, RN**
Executive Director
Nursing Informatics
Nursing



Caleb King, MD (July 2023)
Medical Director
Clinical Informatics
West



Chad Wagoner, MD
Medical Director
Clinical Informatics
North Central



Jason Dausman, MD
Medical Director
Clinical Informatics
East



Jeff Del Vecchio, PA-C
Medical Director
Clinical Informatics
North Central



Lou Anglo, MD
Medical Director
Clinical Informatics
East



Provider Roles at Mercy

- ▶ Clinical Informaticists (8)
 - ▶ Ministry Wide
 - ▶ Facilitate Prioritization with IT and Solutioning for end-to-end solutions
 - ▶ Providers and efficiency support
 - ▶ Clinical Decision Support
 - ▶ Partner with IT and Organizational Leadership
 - ▶ Support Technology Adoption across the clinical environment
 - ▶ Promoting Software Usability/Human-Centered Design
 - ▶ Upgrades and Optimization of Workflows and tools
 - ▶ Epic Builder



What Makes a Great Clinical Informaticists?





Why are PA's ideal for Clinical Informatics?





Clinical Informatics Resources





Questions?

Patti Cuartas

patti.cuartas@mountsinai.org

Jeff Del Vecchio

jeffrey.delvecchio@mercy.net

Jamie Silkey

jsilkey@mcw.edu