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## Decreasing Documentation Burden: 25x5 Symposium Overview, Findings, & Action Plan, and Analytical Approaches to Measurement

**CONCERN** 

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#### CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT



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#### Taking Action Against Clinician Burnout

A Systems Approach to Professional Well-Being



21st Century Cures Act

Selected Amendments to the FD&C Act / 21st Century Cures Act



https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/selected-amendments-fdc-act/21st-century-



The 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act), signed into law on December 13, 2016, is to help accelerate medical product development and bring new innovations and a to patients who need them faster and more efficiently. The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

Strategy on Reducing Regulatory and Administrative Burden Relating to the Use of Health IT and EHRs

#### **FINAL REPORT**

As Required by the 21st Century Cures Act Public Law 114-255, Section 4001

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# Quadruple Aim

- Enhancing patient experience
- Improving population health
- Reducing costs
- Improving the work life of health care provider

#### REFLECTION

## From Triple to Quadruple Aim: Care of the Patient Requires Care of the Provider

Thomas Bodenbeimer, MD<sup>4</sup> Christine Sinsky, MD<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Center for Excellence in Primary Care, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California

<sup>2</sup>Medical Associates Clinic and Health Plan, Dubuque, Iowa

<sup>3</sup>American Medical Association, Chicago, Illinois

#### ABSTRACT

The Triple Aim—enhancing patient experience, improving population health, and reducing costs—is widely accepted as a compass to optimize health system performance. Yet physicians and other members of the health care workforce report widespread burnout and dissatisfaction. Burnout is associated with lower patient satisfaction, reduced health outcomes, and it may increase costs. Burnout thus imperils the Triple Aim. This article recommends that the Triple Aim be expanded to a Quadruple Aim, adding the goal of improving the work life of health care providers, including clinicians and staff.

Ann Fam Med 2014;12:573-576. doi: 10.1370/afm.1713.

#### INTRODUCTION

Since Don Berwick and colleagues introduced the Triple Aim into the health care lexicon, this concept has spread to all corners of the health care system. The Triple Aim is an approach to optimizing health system performance, proposing that health care institutions simultaneously pursue 3 dimensions of performance: improving the health of populations, enhancing the patient experience of care, and reducing the per capita cost





# Background on Documentation Burden

- We know documentation time is excessive (across health professions and settings) and linked to burnout
  - https://www.dbmi.columbia.edu/25x5/
  - <u>https://www.dbmi.columbia.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/25by5-</u> <u>Readings-Feb11.docx</u>
- EHRs optimization is still early on
  - Paper records finely tuned over decades







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Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association, 28(5), 2021, 998-1008 doi: 10.1093/jamia/ocaa325 Advance Access Publication Date: 12 January 2021

Review

Review

### Measurement of clinical documentation burden among physicians and nurses using electronic health records: a scoping review

Amanda J. Moy (D,<sup>1</sup> Jessica M. Schwartz (D,<sup>2</sup> RuiJun Chen (D,<sup>1,3</sup> Shirin Sadri,<sup>4</sup> Eugene Lucas,<sup>1,5</sup> Kenrick D. Cato,<sup>2</sup> and Sarah Collins Rossetti (D<sup>1,2</sup>)

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biomedical Informatics, Columbia University, New York, New York, USA, <sup>2</sup>School of Nursing, Columbia University, New York, New York, USA, <sup>3</sup>Department of Translational Data Science and Informatics, Geisinger, Danville, Pennsylvania, USA, <sup>4</sup>Vagelos School of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University New York, New York, USA, and <sup>5</sup>Department of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, New York, USA

- Standard and validated measures of documentation burden are lacking
- Core concepts measured:
  - Effort: •
    - EHR usage and workload
    - Clinical documentation/review
    - EHR work after hours and remotely
    - Administrative tasks
    - Cognitively cumbersome work
    - Fragmentation of workflow
    - Patient interaction
  - Time •
    - Average time
    - Proportion of time
    - **Timeliness of completion**
    - Activity rate
    - 11 units of analysis
- No consensus on best approach or degree of rigor to study documentation burden

#### **Co-Chairs**



Sarah Collins Rossetti, RN, PhD, FACMI, FAMIA Assistant Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Nursing Columbia University

**S. Trent Rosenbloom, MD, MPH, FACMI** Professor and Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs Departments of Biomedical Informatics, Internal Medicine & Pediatrics Vanderbilt University

#### https://www.dbmi.columbia.edu/25by5-symposium/

January 15, 2021 – February 19, 2021

#25x5



*Funded by the National Library of Medicine* (1R13LM013581-01)

#### **Steering Committee Members**

Kenrick Cato, RN, PhD, FAAN

Assistant Professor of Nursing

Don Detmer, MD, FACMI

Vanderbilt University

University of Virginia School of Medicine

Kevin Johnson MD, MS, FAAP, FACMI

Professor and Chair of Biomedical Informatics



Columbia University
Columbia University
Dasha Cohen
Director of Meetings
AMIA





**Eugene Lucas, MD** Internal Medicine Physician, Clinical Informatics Fellow Columbia University

Professor of Medical Education, Dept. Public Health Sciences



Amanda Moy, MPH, MA National Library of Medicine Pre-doctoral Trainee Columbia University

**Judy Murphy, RN, FACMI, LFHIMSS, FAAN** Previous IBM CNO and ONC Deputy National Coordinator for Programs and Policy

#### Craig Sachson



Director of Communications, Department of Biomedical Informatics Columbia University

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#### Jessica Schwartz, MPhil, BSN, RN

National Institute of Nursing Research Pre-doctoral Trainee Columbia University



**Jeff Williamson, M.Ed.** Vice President of Education and Academic Affairs AMIA











# Symposium Goals

- Create a meeting that engages a diverse group of key stakeholders and leaders focused on reducing documentation burden
- Assess the likely potential for burden reduction within each category of documentation burden tasks
- Establish approaches for immediate (6 months), short-term (12 months), and longer term (30 months) elimination of clinical documentation burden
- Develop a 25x5 Community of stakeholders and allies to keep momentum going and to support dissemination and change
- Maximize techquity\* of any proposed solutions

\*defined as the consideration, design, development, and implementation of technology solutions that promote, assure and potentially enhance health equity







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# **Principles of Engagement**



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Leverage technology and existing data inputs where appropriate (e.g., reduce re-documentation of items already captured during other intake processes)

No erosion of care standards (e.g., quality, safety, value, efficiency, access, etc.)



Maximize clarity of proposed rules to minimize misinterpretation by health systems and providers

No wholesale shifting of work from one clinician to another clinician: seek to eliminate unnecessary documentation all together







# Speakers and Topics





Panel on Policy and Reimbursement Issues



Panel on Clinical Practice and Documentation Issues

- Andrew Gettinger, MD (Chief Clinical Officer, ONC)
- Mary Greene, MD (Director, Office of Burden Reduction & Health Informatics, CMS)
- Brent James, MD (Clinical Professor (Affiliated), Dept of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine)
- Sharon Kirby, MSN, RN-BC (Previous Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, Department of Nursing, Mayo Clinic)
- Sherri Hess, MS-IS, BSN, RN-BC, FHIMSS (Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, Banner Health)
- Kenrick Cato, PhD, RN, CPHIMS (Assistant Professor, Columbia University School of Nursing; Nurse Researcher, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital)





- (Aaron) Zachary Hettinger, MD (Director of Cognitive Informatics, MedStar Health National Center for Human Factors in Healthcare)
- Kim Unertl, PhD (Associate Professor of Biomedical Informatics in the School of Medicine at Vanderbilt University)
- Susan McBride PhD, RN-BC, CPHIMS, FAAN (Professor, Program Director Nursing Informatics Graduate Program, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)
- Peter Chabot Smith, MD (Department of Family Medicine, University of Colorado)
- Yaa Kumah-Crystal, MD, MPH, MS (Assistant Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Pediatric Endocrinology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center)
- Lorraine Possanza, DNP, JD, MBE (Program Director, Partnership for Health IT Patient Safety)

(slide borrowed with permission from Kevin Johnson)



## Challenges to What and How We Document -Highlighted Points

(AG) 21<sup>st</sup> century cures – changed the certification program to attest to maintenance, pediatric requirements, USCDI v2, FHIR

(MG)

- Prior authorization- must be simplified or eliminated. (DaVinci FHIR API)
- Documentation requirements work is underway, impact must be evaluated
- Importance of getting providers clear guidance about requirements

(BJ) Selection and ranking processes need to stop, in favor only of measurement for change and learning with transparency at the front line.

(SK) Eliminate, simplify, integrate and automate (ESIA model for business process reengineering); Learn from the pandemic!

(SH) Stressed the importance of ESIA

(ESIA = Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)

## **Relevant Points**

(slide borrowed with permission from Kevin Johnson) AG = Andrew Gettinger, MD (Chief Clinical Officer, ONC) MG = Mary Greene, MD (Director, Office of Burden Reduction & Health Informatics, CMS) BJ = Brent James, MD (Clinical Professor (Affiliated), Dept of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine) SK = Sharon Kirby, MSN, RN-BC (Previous Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, Department of Nursing, Mayo Clinic) SH = Sherri Hess, MS-IS, BSN, RN-BC, FHIMSS (Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, Banner Health) (ZH) We need to address the usability challenges of duplicate documentation, "siloed" notes, and readability of the output. We need to make better use of data generated through IoT, PROM, HIE.

(KU) Workflow integration and attention to who, what, why, when where, how. A research approach to session 1 comments!

(SM) Too many clicks can be balanced by need for structured data to measure and improve. There are frameworks to assess and act on the volume of clicks we require from providers of care.

(PS) There are benefits to sidekicks (scribes) following the provider, and even more to teamlets (MA, RN, trainer...) following the patient, and possibly more for teams of teams (multiple disciplines). More disruption to our systems with more complex models, but also more benefits.

(YK) There are new capabilities offered using speech recognition that can decrease the time to find relevant information in the EHR

(LP) Copy and Paste is a way to document stability, is used by everyone, but may propagate misinformation, increase cognitive requirements for the reader, and result in work arounds or usability issues.

## Relevant Points

(slide borrowed with permission from Kevin Johnson)

ZH = (Aaron) Zachary Hettinger, MD (Director of Cognitive Informatics, MedStar Health National Center for Human Factors in Healthcare)
KU = Kim Unertl, PhD (Associate Professor of Biomedical Informatics in the School of Medicine at Vanderbilt University)
SM = Susan McBride PhD, RN-BC, CPHIMS, FAAN (Professor, Program Director Nursing Informatics Graduate Program, Texas Tech University Health
Sciences Center)
PS = Peter Chabot Smith, MD (Department of Family Medicine, University of Colorado)
YK = Yaa Kumah-Crystal, MD, MPH, MS (Assistant Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Pediatric Endocrinology at Vanderbilt University Medical
Center)
LP = Lorraine Possanza, DNP, JD, MBE (Program Director, Partnership for Health IT Patient Safety)

## Rich Information in the Chat!

leave the appropriateness decisions at the level of the healthcare delivery system. : Compliance increases as volume of documentation deceases

: England has a national standard for problem lists. I would love to be part of that discussion.

: I agree with you , but OMS requires additional documentation of counseling and patient understanding prior to ordering or the patient can't be scheduled for low dose CT scan. Providers also order low dose CT scan for non lung cancer screening.

: @ - agree, especially if you start with clinical competency and not use required documentation to teach new clinical skills

: Q. Yes, I think every organization interprets how problem lists are used and who can or cannot contribute to them differently. Perhaps benefit from standardization?

: I was once almost fired for pointing out that professional auditors only agree 25% of the time on whether a billed chart is compliant. : Capitation has it's own set of problems. I do not believe it is better than Fee for Service. I participate in both fee for service and capitated plans.

: @ that is what we are finding as you have more focus on delivery vs on documentation.

: Is there an effort to align documentation requirements across settings. For example, nursing homes and home health have very different types of documentation requirements based on differences in assessments and reporting requirements. Different documentation requirements makes it difficult to follow patients across these settings consistently, which has impacts on quality and safety. : problem lists, please reach out. I've worked at a couple of startups that are actively experimenting with this for homegrown EHRs, so we have a little more flexibility than the commercial shops

: do we think USCDI v2 is part of the problem or part of the solution. I look at adding Date of onset of problems has burdensome for many patients, as an example. Help us understand this!

I think it is easier to maintain Med Lists than Problem Lists... I magine how much money in healthcare could be saved if we could eliminate the medical coding and clinical documentation improvement departments. Satisfaction with the EHR would certainly improve if there were less CDI queries.

: I would disagree – when a patient comes in and I review the medication list they are often not able to confirm they are taking the med. "I don't know I take a water pill"...

: @ - agree med lists are an absolute mess. Especially as an urgent care doc, the auto-pulled in stuff is very out of date and inaccurate : I agree that we need to be very cautious about adding content to the USCDI process - that's why we made it a very open & transparent process. Problem list is a great example of content that is used variably by different clinicians - so "having the capability" is different than requiring it or how it is subsequently presented to lifecycle of those measures is a real problem and often does not reinforce quality. Yet, the US clearly has quality and cost issues with many worldwide measures of evaluating quality/cost of care. So, my question is, how do we address accountability as an industry on cost, safety and quality? Is it a measures develop and execution issue?

: @ agree. Though I would offer that there is still paper everywhere. We spend way too much time writing information on paper and transcribing it back and forth between different places.

: By linking the problem to the person who is managing it, we then make somebody accountable for 'curating' that problem.

: Also agree that we need to redesign how we chart based on what is capable in an digital world

: IF we eliminate requirements, then we don't need to align them : As we change some of the burden around required content (and we'll have to start developing some new tools to handle patient-generated health data), we also need to make it easier to record our clinical thinking. We like to talk with our colleagues to coordinate care – how about talking with the EHR?

: There needs to be more provenance in the record – especially when being shared across care settings.

: Aligning documentation requirements key for safe care transitions, e.g. the PACIO project

: http://pacioproject.org/

: does CMS have an actual count of the number of quality measures that must be documented and reported? just wondering so we can get a baseline

: http://pacioproject.org

: +1 michael brody

: , long time no talk :-)

: There is also the issue of the need of marking the problem list, med list, allergies as reviewed for meaningful use. Is this really necessary? If we are adding problems, meds etc. Shouldn't that indicate that we reviewed those lists?

: @ - yes these certification signatures are a huge zero-value problem, likely only create barriers to timely care. Brings up larger question that much of provider documentation is designed to prevent fraud (a real problem but much less expensive than our massive regulatory infrastructure) and cost shifting.

: Čan we also align behavioral health and hospital standards? The fact that a psych unit in a hospital has very burdensome requirements that go far beyond the burden in the rest of the hospital is a longstanding issue and behavioral health stakeholders clearly want duplicate documentation and formal interdisciplinary treatment planning eliminated.

: Has anyone analyzed the contents of international notes referred to

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## **Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Sub-Committee**



- Culture
- Organizational
- People
- Technology

- Who defines goals of documentation?
- Information is filtered through systems and processes



NT Cheung (Chief Medical Informatics Officer, Hong Kong's Hospital Authority)



Viet Nguyen, MD (Founder, Stratametrics; Technical Director, HL7 Da Vinci Project)

## NHS

## 25x5: An international perspective on challenges and opportunities

Dr Natasha Phillips, National CNIO, NHSX 29 January 2021



Natasha Phillips, RN (Chief Nursing Information Officer NHSX, London, England, United Kingdom)



William Dan Roberts, PhD (Vice President Care Delivery and Performance at HCA Healthcare)



Bonnie Adrian, PhD (RN-BC, Research Nurse Scientist, Clinical Informatics, UC Health)



Subha Airan–Javia, MD, FAMIA Founder, CEO I CareAlign Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine (Adj) Penn Medicine, Section of Hospital Medicine Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania





## Clickbusters

AMIA 25x5 Session 3

Adam Wright, PhD Vanderbilt University Medical Center @vumc\_vclic

Adam Wright, PhD, FACMI, FAMIA, FIAHSI (Professor Department of Biomedical Informatics, Vanderbilt University)



Helen Palomino, LCSW (Chief Executive Officer, The Cancer Resource Center of the Desert)



# **Project Joy at UCHealth in Colorado**

## Bonnie Adrian, PhD RN-BC

Clinical Informatics Research Nurse Scientist Bonnie.Adrian@uchealth.org

~2500 inpatient RNs, ~16,000 shifts





Fewer minutes in flowsheets per inpatient RN 12 hour shift (21% reduction)

**Flowsheet rows eliminated** 

# 64,800 RN hours worth over \$2.8M annually

## 360 Million fewer "clicks" a year

Workflow analyzer results, charting same real patient case before and after.

https://www.dbmi.columbia.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/25x5Symposium-Adrian-Joy-final.pdf

# Exemplars and Key Successes - Take-Aways

• Exemplars are doing excellent work, with tangible results

360 Million fewer "clicks" a year

Project Joy, UC Health

 Broad learning, dissemination, and spread to other providers/health systems are not happening

- Spread to Vendors and Policy/Advocacy groups also not apparent
- International groups do not have the same reimbursement and regulatory constraints, but still experience burden and are focused on decreasing "size" of EHR content and notes



## 25x5 Survey on Post-COVID Documentation Reduction

- 351 responses
- Majority (80.3%) experienced **telehealth expansion** and preferred that it remain permanent
  - Rated moderately high in impact (60.1-61.5)
- Over two-thirds (67.9%) experienced telehealth coding changes for E&M
  - Rated lower impact than telehealth strategies alone (55.8)
- Majority supported *additional* documentation strategies associated with:
  - EHR usability (e.g., eliminating alerts, login optimization, EHR optimization sprints, and monitoring and improving EHR use measures)
  - **Data entry** (e.g., documenting only pertinent positives, device integration/efficient data capture)
- Less support for shifting work to ancillary staff (e.g., documentation assistance, medication reconciliation)
- Variability in perceptions and experience of documentation burden (e.g., templates charting by exception)



The Six Domains of Burden: A Conceptual Framework to Address the Burden of Documentation in the Electronic Health Record Columbia University School of Nursing

Position Paper of the American Nursing Informatics Association Board of Directors





Two weeks of work involving over 100 participants in 19 breakout groups => LOADS of data



Sengstack PP, Adrian B, David R-B, Boyd L, Davis A, Hook M, et al. The Six Domains of Burden: A Conceptual Framework to Address the Burden of Documentation in the Electronic Health Record Position Paper of the American Nursing Informatics Association Board of Directors







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#### **3 Stakeholder Groups**

- 1. Provider and Health System Calls to Action
- 2. Vendor Calls to Action
- 3. Policy Advocacy Calls to Action

#### <u>4 Themes</u>

- Accountability
  - "Not working in silos"
  - Clarity of roles
  - Cohesive understanding/requirements among agencies and stakeholders
- Evidence matters
  - Evidence-based practice informing measures
  - Generation of evidence
  - Clinician input
- Education and training
  - Documentation requirements and standards
  - Brevity and clarity training for new clinicians
  - Focus on quality over quantity
  - Incentivize training
- Innovation of technology
  - Integration of tech variety
  - Increased interoperability





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#### Accountability

- "Not working in silos"
- Clarity of roles
- Cohesive understanding/requirements among agencies and stakeholders

## **Evidence matters**

- Evidence-based practice informing measures
- Generation of evidence
- Clinician input

## **Education and training**

- Documentation requirements and standards
- Brevity and clarity training for new clinicians
- Focus on quality over quantity
- Incentivize training

## Innovation of technology

- Integration of tech variety
- Increased interoperability



# Call to Action: Providers/Health Systems should ...

## Accountability and Evidence

Establish guiding principles for adding documentation to EHR with multidisciplinary collaboration led by clinician experts

Generate evidence for reduced documentation and impact on risk/compliance and removing documentation that isn't positively impactful Education and Training

Develop and host national roadshow; directed towards professional clinicians & clinicians in training

Med Student & Resident education: Universities and Health Centers to train brevity in addition to completeness

#### Technical Innovation

Expect/support real time information retrieval, documentation, and ordering

> Implement interdisciplinary notes/team-based documentation

> > cc)\_\_(

# Call to Action: Vendors should ...

## Accountability and Evidence

Promote ecosystem of interoperable systems to allow for complementary technology beyond single EHR vendor

Develop metrics to review and grade a user's documentation based on length/efficiency/redundancy; provide ongoing user feedback and peer benchmarking Education and Training

Package best training practices into toolkits to promote user's workflow revisioning and "best practice" EHR use

Plan recognition programs and publicize exemplars to incentivize the sharing of documentation burden reduction success stories

## Technical Innovation

Create simplistic EHR views to see that new clinical data has been reviewed then bookmark for user and document as reviewed by that user in the EHR

Implement personalized CDS with AI to drive userspecific workflows and care recommendations

x) (x)

# Call to Action: Policy/Advocacy Groups should ...

Accountability and Evidence

Urge NIH (NLM, PCORI), AHRQ & ONC to fund research related to capturing all coding information (E&M & CPT, etc.) w/o engaging any clinician time

Means: Payers to clarify & unify rules; develop data handoff 'handshakes'; create prior authorization call centers; assume responsibility for code validation

## Education and Training

Select 'best of breed' & implement systems throughout the Health Care System

Means: mixture of public & private funding

#### Technical Innovation

Develop technology to reliably & accurately create reimbursement/payment data for all care settings w/o clinician engagement

Means: A/V components in care settings to capture all information relevant to coding & note generation

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# Key Takeaway Points –

- 25x5 Symposium brought together stakeholders to consider how to reduce documentation burden by 75% in 5 years
  - Presentations from 33 formal stakeholder representatives

- Documentation burden has numerous contributing factors
  - Work to date has untangled contributors to burden

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- We have presented several action-oriented next steps
- We found exemplars from other industries and clinical settings
- Next steps will involve working with providers/health systems, HealthIT vendors, and national policy/advocacy groups







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#### • Where are we?

• All recordings and chats from Symposium Series are available online

MEDICAL CENTER

- Breakout outputs => draft action plan
- Multiple national report-outs including CIC!

## • What is Next?

- 1. Develop 25x5 Reports focused on Future Needs and Action Plan
  - Executive Summary
  - Full report Cohesive, overall action plan to fine-tune the actions
  - Peer-reviewed and White Papers
- 2. Create Network of Allies
  - Ongoing Dissemination Activities & Conversations
    - ACMI, ONC, HIMSS, OHSU, NLM, NYONEL'S, AMA, NLM...
- 3. Convene Key Stakeholders From Community to Mobilize Strategies Nationally (e.g., NAM, CMS, ONC, AMA, ANA)
  - Convening Sessions for Strategic Planning
  - Formation of Working Groups
  - Future Activities and Reports







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# Studies to quantify & measure burden





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Academic Health System. Appl Clin Inform 2016;7:227-37.



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## or Clinical *Documentation* Support???

Clinical *Decision* Support

CDS Recommending to Document a Plan of Care Template	<b>% (n)</b> 21% (9)	Wisdom Understanding and	Opportunities to Promote Top of Licensure Nurse
Order a Consult Perform a Care Activity to Impact Clinical Outcomes	17% (7) 12% (5)	Knowledge	Decision Making
<i>Document</i> a Quality/Compliance Measure <i>Document</i> Required Item to Task List	12% (5) 12% (5)	Derived by discovering patterns and relationships between types of	Ť
Perform a Care Activity to Impact Clinical Processes	10% (4)	information	
<b>Document</b> Missing Required Documentation	<b>7% (3)</b> 5% (2)	Information Data plus meaning	
<b>Document</b> Patient Education	5% (2)	-	
Whalen K, Bavuso K, Bouyer-Ferullo S, Goldsmith D, Fairbank Analysis of Nursing Clinical Decision Support Requests and St	s A, Gesner E, et al. trategic Plan in a Large	<u>Data</u> Little or no meaning in isolation	Clinical Documentation Support





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Quantifying and Visualizing Nursing Flowsheet Documentation Burden in Acute and Critical Care

Sarah Collins RN, PhD<sup>1,2</sup>, Brittany Couture<sup>3</sup>, BS, Min Jeoung Kang<sup>3,4</sup>, RN, PhD, Patricia Dykes, RN, PhD<sup>3,4</sup>, Kumiko Schnock, RN, PhD<sup>3,4</sup>, Chris Knaplund, MPhil<sup>2</sup>, Frank Chang, MSE<sup>3</sup>, Kenrick Cato, RN, PhD<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Columbia University, Department of Biomedical Informatics, New York, NY; <sup>2</sup>Columbia University, School of Nursing, New York, NY; <sup>3</sup>Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA; <sup>4</sup>Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA;

#### Abstract

Documentation burden is a well-documented problem within healthcare, and improvement requires understanding of the scope and depth of the problem across domains. In this study we quantified documentation burden within EHR flowsheets, which are primarily used by nurses to document assessments and interventions. We found mean rates of 633-689 manual flowsheet data entries per 12-hour shift in the ICU and 631-875 manual flowsheet data entries per 12-hour shift in acute care, excluding device data. Automated streaming of device data only accounted for 5-20% of flowsheet data entries across our sample. Reported rates averaged to a nurse documenting 1 data point every 0.82-1.14 minutes, despite only a minimum data-set of required documentation. Increased automated device integration and novel approaches to decrease data capture burden (e.g., voice recognition), may increase nurses' available time for interpretation, annotation, and synthesis of patient data while also further advancing the richness of information within patient records.

#### Introduction

Clinical data capture and documentation should be: clinically pertinent, of high quality, efficient and usable, support multiple downstream uses as a byproduct of recording care delivery, enable shared decision-making and collaboration, enable collection and interpretation of information from multiple sources, and be automated whenever appropriate.<sup>1</sup> Decreasing documentation burden across healthcare settings and professionals is a priority of several professional

- On average & excluding device data
  - 1 data point every 1.04 1.14 minutes in the ICU
  - 1 data point every 0.82 1.14 minutes in Acute Care
- Patterns observed
  - Short intervals (in minutes) exist between a nurses' flowsheet data entries
  - Nurses entered up to 40 flowsheet data points at a time with relative frequency
  - Larger batch of data at only one or two time points during their shift





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Time-motion examination of electronic health record utilization and clinician workflows indicate frequent task switching and documentation burden

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#### Abstract

Clinical documentation burden has been broadly acknowledged, yet few interprofessional measures of burden exist. Using interprofessional time-motion study (TMS) data, we evaluated clinical workflows with a focus on electronic health record (EHR) utilization and fragmentation among 46 clinicians: 33 advanced practice providers (APPs) and 13 registered nurses (RNs) from: an acute care unit (n=15 observations [obs]), intensive care unit ( $n_{obs}$ =14), ambulatory clinic ( $n_{obs}$ =3), and emergency department ( $n_{obs}$ =14). We examined workflow fragmentation, task-switch type, and task involvement. In our study, clinicians on average exhibited 1.4±0.6 switches per minute in their workflow. Ninety-nine (21.3%) of the 464 task-switch types presented in the data accounted for 80.0% of all switches. Among those, data viewing- and entry-related tasks were involved in 47.5% of all switches, indicating documentation burden may play a critical role in workflow disruptions. Therefore, interruption rate evaluated through task switches may serve as a proxy for measuring burden.

#### Introduction

Over one third of nurses and nearly half of all physicians experience some degree of burnout due to chronic work-related stress.<sup>1,2</sup> Driven by individual and institutional factors such as excessive workloads, process inefficiencies (e.g., frequent interruptions),<sup>3,4</sup> technological advances, and changes in care delivery (among other factors),<sup>5</sup> professional burnout is characterized by three main symptoms: inefficiency, emotional exhaustion, and depersonalization.<sup>6</sup> The growing body of literature has demonstrated a compelling association between burnout and the unintended negative consequences, including increased medical errors, poorer patient outcomes, decreased adherence to practice guidelines, and risks to patient safety and care quality.<sup>8-10</sup>



	mean(# switches/min)	SD	min	max
Advanced Practice Provider				
Acute Care	1.5	0.7	0.6	2.3
Ambulatory	0.9	0.2	0.7	1.1
Emergency	1.5	0.6	0.6	2.6
Intensive Care	1.4	0.5	0.6	2.2
Total	1.4	0.6	0.6	2.6
Registered Nurse				
Acute Care	1.7	0.5	1.2	2.7
Intensive Care	1.1	0.3	0.8	1.4
Total	1.5	0.5	0.8	2.7



## The Power of <u>Optional</u> Documentation – *Signals of Autonomy, Quality, and Safety within the Nursing Process*

The likelihood of an event occurring 48 hours after observing a CONCERN high risk score is comparable to the likelihood of an event occurring 6 hours after observing a high risk MEWS or NEWS score – a difference of 42 hours.



**Rossetti SC**, Knaplund C, Albers D, Dykes PD, Kang MJ, Korach TZ, Zhou L, Schnock K, Garcia J, Schwartz J, Fu LH, Klann JG, Cato K. Healthcare Process Modeling to Phenotype Clinician Behaviors for Exploiting the Signal Gain of Clinical Expertise (HPM-ExpertSignals): Development and Evaluation of a Conceptual Framework. Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association. Accepted Jan 2021.







## Variability in metadata patterns

Nurses increase their frequency of surveillance – and subsequently frequency of documentation – for patients that fit a concerning pattern

Focus only on values of EHR data will miss healthcare processes and nursing interventions activated far before a patient's vital signs are abnormal

Approach can shift how we understand and leverage clinical observational skills and clinician entered data within a patient's chart and measure burden



Information that the nurse likely determined an event or observation was clinically significant enough to record





#### Comparison of three Early Warning Scores **BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS**

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CONCERN National Early Warning Score (NEWS) Modified Early Warning Score (MEWS) Average MEWS score 24 hours before ICU transfer Average CONCERN score 24 hours before ICU transfer Average NEWS score 24 hours before ICU transfer 0.200 Black or African American or Black Black or African Americar Black or African American 0.175 0.30 White or Caucasian White or Caucasian White or Caucasian 0.175 ——— Mean - Black or African American --- Mean - Black or African American ——— Mean - Black or African American 0.150 --- Mean - White or Caucasian Mean - White or Caucasian Mean - White or Caucasian 0.25 0.150 0.125 0.20 0.125 0.100 0.100 p 0.15 ≝ 0.075 0.075 0.10 0.050 0.050 0.05 0.025 0.025 0.00 0.000 0.000 2 10 12 10 14 8 score score score Mean – Black or Mean – White or P-value Mean – Black or Mean – White or P-value Mean – Black or Mean – White or P-value **African American** African American African American Caucasian Caucasian Caucasian 3.976190 4.053905 0.210805 5.161055 5.752857 0.009656 3.355838 3.673857 0.046306

- Anticipated that race (and other patient demographics) would play a role in an EWS based on documentation patterns (CONCERN). Demographic information was included in the model building and postprocessing steps to reduce racial bias in the score.
- NEWS and MEWS based on a patient's physiological state and do not account for potential racial biases. White or Caucasian patients who are transferred to the ICU receive a statistically higher average scores then Black or African American patients.
- CONCERN, NEWS and MEWS scores were generated every hour for the 24-hour period preceding an unanticipated transfer to ICU. The average score was calculated for each patient.
- The dataset was comprised of 157 Black or African American patients and 1600 White or Caucasian patients.
- Race identified by race field in the EHR.

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•Subbe, C. P., Kruger, M., Rutherford, P. & Gemmel, L. Validation of a modified Early Warning Score in medical admissions. OJM 94, 521-6 (2001). •Pimentel, M. A. F. et al. A comparison of the ability of the National Early Warning Score and the National Early Warning Score 2 to identify patients at risk of in-hospital mortality: A multi-centre database study. Resuscitation 134, 147–156 (2019).







# Data Science & Applied Clinical Informatics Opportunity: Healthcare Process Modeling

- Healthcare Process Models –
- Identify features from user interaction with clinical systems which are patterns of clinical behaviors
- Patterns interpreted as proxies of an individual's decisions, knowledge, and expertise
- Use patterns in predictive models for associations with outcomes
- Clinical domain expertise is essential for accurate and comprehensive interpretations.









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Lack of Clarity



"Gotcha" Mentality

4 Key Clinical Values are Missing Because of this Cycle of Burden:

- 1. Personalized Nurse Care Planning
- 2. Opportunities for Higher Level Clinical Decision Making
  - 3. Capture and Synthesis of the Patient's Story
- 4. Communication of Key Patient Information to the Interdisciplinary Care Team



Different interpretations

"Cover your butt"

Fear of Litigation











# Discussion and Thank You!

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