Call for Papers: Special Section on Patient Engagement in Informatics

Guest Editors
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Description of Special Section
Patients generate, contribute, and use health-related data. They use patient portals and scheduling systems, receive health care services, and are billed for these services. They see multiple providers and may be the first (and sometimes only) ones to know when systems are ineffective, slow, or not interoperable. Patients may experience adverse consequences if EHR systems are ineffective or if clinical decision support does not function as intended. As experts on their health and their health-related goals and preferences, patients are well positioned to identify and correct data errors or omissions. As recipients and beneficiaries of health care services, patients arguably are key stakeholders in nearly every data transaction. Patients are central to the concept of “patient-centered care” and the patient perspective for goals and outcomes is fundamental to value-based care. The 21st Century Cures Act mandated that health care organizations make patients’ data accessible to patients.

At the same time, patients have begun developing successful research initiatives, establishing disease registries, and supporting drug development. Patients’ roles in research have evolved from being mere participants to decision makers and co-designers. As health data initiatives expand, a similar transformation in the health care data exchange space may occur such that patients and consumers play more prominent roles in deciding what systems or functions are needed. The special issue seeks to feature a broad range of topics where patients have been involved with or instrumental in the design, development, or modification of systems used to provide care or generate research in clinical informatics applications or supporting infrastructures, including standards development and promotion.

Topics of Interest
Topics of interest for this special issue include but are not limited to:
▪ Consumer and patient engagement in standards development and promotion
▪ Consumer/patient-led initiatives in clinical informatics
▪ Demonstrations of the use of patient-contributed data (including integration with EHR systems) in support of diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and/or research
▪ Research articles describing the implementation or improved use of patient-reported outcomes (PROs) or other patient-facing tools
▪ Methods for engaging patients/caregivers in the development of digital health tools to support care or eHealth
▪ Innovative uses of person-generated health data (PGHD) in clinical care or health care services research
▪ Lessons learned from partnering with patients, caregivers, and consumers in the development of digital tools developed for use in clinical or research settings
▪ Methods for evaluation of patient-facing tools and technologies in support of quality improvement or quality assurance

Deadline
Manuscripts should be submitted by September 1, 2022.
Submission and Peer Review Process
To ensure consideration in the special issue, authors should note in their cover letter that the submission is for the “Special Section on Patient Engagement in Informatics.” All submitted manuscripts should include “Special Section on Patient Engagement in Informatics” in the article title, i.e., “Special Section on Patient Engagement in Informatics: [manuscript title]”. All manuscripts will be subject to the rigorous ACI peer-review process. Manuscripts that are considered within scope and meet quality expectations will be reviewed by informatics experts for scientific merit. Authors not comfortable or experienced with journal-style scientific writing should seek the assistance of a technical editor to ensure that the submission meets quality expectations of the journal.

General Information about the journal can be found at https://www.thieme.com/books-main/clinical-informatics/product/4433-aci-applied-clinical-informatics.

Questions Regarding the Issue
Please direct any questions regarding the special issue or submissions to petersen.carolyn@mayo.edu or richessr@med.umich.edu.