

ACI Call for Papers: Special Section on Care Transitions

The increasing longevity of patients has led to an increasing number of acute and chronic health conditions they may experience across the lifespan. These conditions and the need to communicate them pose a challenging task for medical experts trying to manage patients' care, for patients attempting to manage their health and avoid preventable health problems, and for transitioning patients from one healthcare setting to another or to home care, managing the shift from an able-bodied life to one affected by disability, and developing personalized health management approaches for individuals with unique health care needs are among the most intractable challenges facing health care today.

Health systems and clinicians today face growing pressure to transition patients faster while reducing adverse events associated with moving patients to less intensive care settings without a decrease in quality of care and patient satisfaction. The financial penalties associated with failure to achieve coordinated care transitions with minimal adverse effects on patients, hospitals, and health systems make it imperative that health care professionals develop and implement scalable solutions that are responsive to the needs of patients and caregivers, health systems, and regulators.

The primary objective of the Special Section on Care Transitions is to bring together clinical informaticians, health systems managers, and visionaries to discuss approaches to transitioning care across settings, patient populations, and shared local/regional demographics. These papers will explore approaches to the most pressing challenges faced by the health care system in care transitions and describe potential solutions implemented and the factors needed to achieve reproducibility in other settings. This special section will offer authors an opportunity to showcase their ongoing work with care transitions and propose new models and methods to address the unmet needs of patients and caregivers, providers, health care organizations, payers, and regulators, as well as the organizations that interact with these groups.

Topics and Scope

Applied Clinical Informatics welcomes manuscripts addressing a broad range of topics related to care transitions. Participants may address transitions from the perspective of a variety of users, including clinicians, health services researchers, public health analysts, health system administrators, hospital-based quality assurance officers, insurance claim analysts, and patients and caregivers.

Potential topics for the Special Section on Care Transitions include, but are not limited to:

- Transitions from hospital to skilled nursing facility, home, or other setting
- Transitions from the community to more intensive care facilities
- Transitions from hospitals to long-term residential care institutions
- Transitions from hospitals or skilled nursing facilities to hospice care
- Transitions within hospitals from critical to lower acuity settings or vice versa
- Transitions from child-focused to adult care settings
- Transitions from primary care settings to specialist settings
- Transitions from the community to care settings serving personal with severe disabilities
- Care transitions occurring between geographic regions

Paper Submission and Format Guidelines

Applied Clinical Informatics encourages a diverse range of submissions and demonstrations from academic, healthcare organizations, and industry that address any of the topics listed above. Manuscripts may be submitted as Research Articles, State of the Art/Best Practice Papers, Case Reports, Reviews, or Letters to the Editor. All submissions should follow the Instructions for Authors at http://www.thieme.com/media/ita/ACI_Instructions_to_Authors.pdf.

Authors are requested to Prefix “Special Section on Care Transitions:” to their actual title both in the submission site (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/acij>) as well as the actual manuscript.

Questions

Questions about the Special Section on Visual Analytics in Health Care should be sent to Carolyn Petersen, MS, MBI, FAMIA, at petersen.carolyn.mayo.edu.

Schedule for the Special Section

March 31, 2020 – Submissions due

May 15, 2020 – Initials decisions/requests for revisions sent to authors

June 30, 2020 – Revised manuscripts due

July 15, 2020 – Decisions to authors

Papers will be published as they are ready.