Integration of Evidence-based Medicine into Order Sets

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Abstract

Improving adherence to evidence-based practice is an important objective of implementing computerized physician order entry (CPOE) systems. Support for evidence-based medicine in CPOE primarily takes form as structured order sets. Order sets help ensure that appropriate therapeutic interventions and diagnostic studies are ordered for a given condition or clinical situation. Order sets can also improve clinical decision-making through inclusion of reminders and links to references.

Integrating evidence-based content into order sets is made daunting by the vast amount and rapid proliferation of scientific literature. Community hospitals with limited library science resources and without an academic infrastructure for performing critical analysis of the literature are at a disadvantage. However, approaches that enable the implementation of evidence-based order sets can accelerate a community hospital’s capability to impact quality.

In this presentation, a collaborative partnership involving a community hospital system, a content provider, and a software systems vendor focused on developing and integrating evidence-based content into order sets will be described. Tools utilized to author order sets will be demonstrated. The inclusion of evidence-based content in the CPOE system will be shown. Early experience with the use of the order sets will be discussed and process measures targeted for improvement will be reviewed.

Description of presentation and educational goals

- Review literature describing the impact computerized physician order entry (CPOE) with clinical decision support on improving adherence to evidence-based practice and clinical outcomes.
- Demonstrate how order sets can facilitate adherence to evidence-based processes of care measured through a reduction in errors of omission.
- Intended target audience: clinicians and professionals with an interest in applied health informatics, project specialists and consultants responsible for implementing CPOE systems, and representatives from software industry.