

EHR Analysis

1 Introduction

The United States Medical Industry makes up close to 18% of the total US GDP and is expected to grow at an average rate of 5.5 % for the next 10 years [4]. Within the past few years, this nearly 3.8 trillion dollar industry has been revolutionized by advances in the health IT technology. Once such revolutionary advancement was the creation of the Electronic Health Record System (EHR) which carried the potential to not only save the medical industry nearly 371 billion dollars over 15 years but also drastically increase access to healthcare information [5]. Adoption of the EHR has been pronounced with nearly 75% of Canadian doctors using some form of an EHR in a 2014 survey and 86.6% of US respondents in another 2014 study reporting that their healthcare provider maintained medical records in a computerized system. [2, 3].

2 Previous Work

Currently two companies, Epic and Cerner, dominate the EHR market with a combined market share of 85% [6]. These two companies have developed systems that work in large hospital settings and are often used in order to communicate information across large hospital chains. However, these system and lesser known competitors, for all of their worth, remain far from a perfect solution to healthcare problems. Issues such as the complexity of the system, inability of users to anticipate potential problems, safety concerns, and difficulty in system migration mitigate some of the supposed benefits of EHR's [1]. These concerns have placed a stain on the EHR industry.

3 Proposition

Thus, our team goal for the course of this project is to develop an EHR specifically focused towards primary care and general practice physicians. In order to address preexisting concerns with existing EHRs, we plan on developing a system that focuses on ease of use for general and primary care healthcare providers and their patients. By developing a system with this goal in mind, we hope to create an EHR that fulfills the potential of an EHR system.

References

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