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WILSON, Marisa L. and PROCTER, Paula M. <<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-6384-592X>>

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Exploring Community Planning Thinking as a Model for Use Case Development

Marisa L. WILSON DNSc MHSc RN-BC CPHIMS^{a,1} and Paula M PROCTER RN,
PGCE, MSc, SFHEA, FBCS, CITP, FIMIANI^b

^a*Family, Community, and Health Systems, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
School of Nursing, USA*

^b*Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Sheffield Hallam University, UK*

Abstract. There are many vetted technical and semantic standards promulgated within the United States and the United Kingdom to operationalize eHealth interoperability in order to improve care outcomes, manage population health, and provide efficient information exchange between providers, services, patients and consumers. However, consideration must be given to the complex real world use cases in which the data and information will be exchanged between a wide variety of interested parties, including the consumer or patient. In many instances, community based use cases need development in order to serve as the model. These use cases can only be accurately described and created by using a wide lens viewpoint such as community-planning engages, which requires that all interested parties be actively involved. This poster will introduce models of community planning that can be developed and led by the Nurse Informatician.

Keywords. interoperability, community planning, use case development, participatory planning, population health

1. Introduction

Interoperability has been defined as the ability of different information technology systems and software applications to communicate, exchange data, and use the information [1]. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) in the US through the Interoperability Roadmap and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) through the Transfer of Care Initiative have both established guidelines and document architectures for the technical and structural exchange of data between providers and organizations in order to optimize health, support better decision making, and to create more opportunities for efficiencies. The ONC has offered the Standards and Interoperability Framework (S&I) that contains multiple document templates while the AoMRC Transfer of Care Initiative offers eDischarge guidance [3,4] for a variety of situations and between different providers. In the UK developments towards the sharing of health records started in 2002 with the launch of the individual National Health Service (NHS) number [5] and

¹ Marisa L Wilson, DNSc MHSc RN-BC CPHIMS, Family, Community and Health Systems, The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, 1720 2nd Avenue South, NB 340, Birmingham, AL 35294-1210, USA; E-mail: mwilsoa@uab.edu.

continues through interoperability initiatives and toolkits from the NHS Health and Social Care Information Centre [6].

2. Methods

A review of community planning models and a synthesis of the evidence of best practice offer multiple models from which to choose will be presented. Each of the models presented support the inclusion of the data from the health determinants that do not come from the medical care sectors. These sources include social, economic, environmental, agricultural, and physical determinants [3].

3. Results

Synthesis of the evidence supporting the community planning models will provide Nurse Informaticians with a best practice for engaging a wide range of partners to positively impact outcomes, and to provide needed data and information to providers through broader use case development. The community planning process will also support the development of needed use cases through which the technical standards of the ONC and the AoMRC can be operationalized.

4. Discussion

Nurse Informaticians can lead the way in using a community planning processes for use case development. Nurse Informaticians can create use cases that will allow for the appropriate sending and receiving of data and information across disparate information systems. Nurse Informaticians, case managers, community nurses, home health nurses, visiting nurses, public health nurses, long term care and acute care nurses will all be able to practice safe and effective care at the highest level of their training when community level use cases are developed using a planning process.

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