

The shining light in eHealth

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Abstract: Electronic health (eHealth) holds the promise of revolutionizing health care by improving its efficiency; extending and enhancing its reach; energizing and engaging patients [1], clinicians and other stakeholders; and improving health outcomes. eHealth includes a wide range of technologies, services, and processes that are used to support the delivery of health care services and the management of health information. These technologies include electronic medical records, telemedicine, mobile health applications, and other digital health applications. eHealth can help improve access to health care, reduce costs, and improve the overall quality of care. However, challenges remain, including the need for more research to evaluate the impact of eHealth on health outcomes, the need to ensure data privacy and security, and the need to address challenges related to eHealth adoption and implementation.

Keywords: Electronic health (eHealth), technologies, services, digital health applications.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the modern era, eHealth has become an increasingly important element of healthcare systems, both in terms of improving access to healthcare and enhancing quality of care. This essay will explore the benefits of eHealth technology and its impact on healthcare access and quality, the challenges of implementing eHealth systems, and the implications for patient-doctor communication.

The use of eHealth technology is gaining immense popularity due to its potential to improve healthcare access and quality. According to Keasberry et al. (2017), there is potential for such technology to benefit primary healthcare by reducing the burden on staff, increasing efficiency in routine tasks, and improving the accuracy of diagnoses. Additionally, eHealth technology can help to reduce costs associated with healthcare access and quality, as the use of telehealth, for example, can reduce the need for physical visits and improve the efficiency of care delivery. Furthermore, access to eHealth technology can help to improve communication between patients, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders, which can lead to better quality of care and improved patient outcomes. Finally, eHealth technology can also provide access to patient data on a secure platform, which can be used to improve health outcomes, such as providing more personalized care, by allowing healthcare providers to access comprehensive patient data. In summary, the use of eHealth technology has immense potential to benefit healthcare access and quality, and should be further explored and implemented.

The implementation of eHealth systems poses a range of challenges that must be taken into consideration in order for them to be successful. One of the challenges is that of making sure that the systems are able to meet the needs of the end user. This can be difficult as the needs of the end user may not be known at the outset and may vary from user to user (Dansky, Thompson, & Sanner, 2006). Additionally, eHealth systems must be designed in a user-friendly manner so that end users are able to easily use the system. If the system is difficult to use, then people may not use it at all, which would lead to a lack of adoption (Dansky et al., 2006). Furthermore, the cost of implementation must also be taken into consideration as it can be expensive to deploy and maintain an eHealth system. It must also be ensured that the system is secure and properly maintained in order to protect patient data (Dansky et al., 2006). In order to overcome these challenges, it is important to have a clear plan in place before the implementation of the eHealth system in order to ensure its success.

The advent of eHealth has led to significant changes in the way that patients and doctors communicate with one another. For example, according to a study conducted by JP Weiner in 2012, the use of eHealth has made it easier for healthcare providers to access and share medical information with their patients. This has had a positive effect on the quality of patient-doctor communication, as it has allowed for more detailed and up-to-date communication between both parties. Furthermore, eHealth has allowed patients to access their medical information quickly and conveniently, which has led to increased patient engagement and satisfaction. This increased engagement has allowed for more meaningful conversations between patients and doctors, leading to improved patient-doctor relationships. Finally, the use of eHealth has allowed for better coordination of care, as healthcare providers have been able to share information more effectively with other providers. All of these factors have had a positive impact on patient-doctor communication, and have helped to improve the overall quality of healthcare. (Weiner, 2012).

In conclusion, ehealth solutions help healthcare systems to improve their quality of life. The implementation of ehealth solutions has opened up new avenues of care and communication in health care, which can lead to improved care, more efficient use of resources, and a better understanding of health care needs between providers and patients. It is essential that healthcare providers recognize the potential benefits of ehealth, and work to create policies and systems to ensure its efficacy. Moreover, ehealth solutions provide the opportunity for patients to access improved care and a greater level of understanding of their health care needs. Therefore, ehealth solutions can help to improve both the quality of life and the economic efficiency of modern healthcare systems.

2. E-HEALTH IN PHARMACY

E-health in pharmacy is the use of web-enabled processes and systems to improve the quality of patient care, increase access to healthcare services, reduce costs, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health services. Examples of e-health in pharmacy include telemedicine, health information systems, patient portals, consumer health informatics, and digital health technology and pharmacy informatics [1]. Examples of digital health technology and pharmacy informatics include mobile applications [1], electronic health records (EHRs), e-prescribing [1], and automated medication dispensing systems. Additionally, e-health in pharmacy can involve the use of online services to provide health-related information, such as fitness trackers, diet planners, and symptom checkers.

An electronic health record (EHR) is a digital version of a patient's paper chart [1][2]. EHRs are real-time, patient-centered records that make information available instantly and securely to authorized users. An EHR contains a patient's medical history, diagnoses, medications, treatment plans, immunization dates, allergies, laboratory test results, and radiology images. EHRs can improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of healthcare delivery. They can also support better decision-making and population health management.

3. THE FUTURE OF E-HEALTH

The advancement of technology has revolutionized the healthcare industry with the introduction of e-health. This essay will explore the advantages and disadvantages of e-health for healthcare providers, the role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in e-health, and the impact of e-health on patients and their privacy. By looking at the burgeoning field of e-health, it will become evident that the future of healthcare will be heavily influenced by technology.

E-Health has the potential to provide numerous advantages to healthcare providers, such as improved communication, enhanced accessibility, and greater efficiency (Minichiello et al., 2013). For instance, healthcare providers can use e-Health technologies to access patient records, communicate with other healthcare providers, and share information quickly and securely. This enables healthcare providers to provide better services to their patients, as well as to reduce the amount of

time and resources required to provide care. Additionally, e-Health technologies can help to improve the accuracy and reliability of patient data, thus reducing the potential for errors and improving patient safety. However, there are also some potential disadvantages associated with e-Health. For example, there is the potential for hackers to gain access to sensitive patient information, which can lead to privacy and security breaches. Additionally, there is a risk that healthcare providers may become over-reliant on e-Health technologies, which can lead to reduced face-to-face interactions with patients and a decrease in patient satisfaction (Minichiello et al., 2013). Furthermore, e-Health technologies can be expensive to implement, and can require a significant amount of time and resources to maintain. Overall, while e-Health technologies can provide numerous advantages to healthcare providers, there are also some potential risks and disadvantages associated with their use. It is therefore important for healthcare providers to consider both the potential advantages and disadvantages of e-Health technologies before implementing them.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) have played a major role in the development of e-health services. AI-based approaches have enabled personalized healthcare by enabling the development of more accurate and reliable patient data collection, analysis, and decision making (P Tagde et al., 2021). AI-based systems can process large amounts of patient data and use predictive analytics to provide more accurate and effective diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases. AI and ML have also enabled the development of virtual assistants, which can provide personalized advice to patients and health care providers. AI-based systems can also be used to reduce healthcare costs and improve patient safety by preventing medical errors, optimizing health care delivery, and providing better monitoring of patient health (P Tagde et al., 2021). AI and ML are also being used to develop digital platforms that can connect healthcare providers, patients, and other stakeholders for better communication, collaboration, and access to healthcare services. Overall, AI and ML are playing a significant role in the development of e-health services and are likely to continue to do so in the future, making healthcare more accessible, efficient, and effective.

E-health is on the rise and has changed how healthcare is delivered and managed. NM Shrestha et al. (2016) conducted a study on the impact of e-health on patients and their privacy. Their findings revealed that e-health has the potential to improve the delivery of healthcare and patient safety, as well as patient engagement and satisfaction. However, they also noted that e-health has its risks and challenges, such as the potential for a breach of patient privacy. Privacy breaches can lead to identity theft, financial loss, and psychological trauma, making it essential to ensure that e-health systems are properly secured and that the privacy of patients is protected. Additionally, the study found that there are cultural, legal, and ethical considerations associated with e-health, such as the need for patient consent. Consequently, it is important to ensure that patients are aware of the risks and benefits of e-health and are given the opportunity to make an informed decision about their healthcare. In summary, while e-health has the potential to improve healthcare, it is also important to consider the risks and ethical considerations associated with it in order to ensure patient safety and privacy.

In conclusion, e-health has the potential to greatly transform how healthcare is delivered. Advances in technology and the increasing use of digital communications point to an imminent future where people have access to quality care from anywhere, and anytime, regardless of time or distance. This will undoubtedly improve access to care for those living in rural and underserved areas, and reduce health disparities. Additionally, technology-enabled remote monitoring and diagnostic tools will enable healthcare professionals to provide better, safer, and more cost-effective care. The future of e-health is bright, and it holds great potential for improving the health and wellness of individuals, communities and populations across the globe.

4. E-HEALTH APPLICATIONS

In recent years, the development and implementation of e-health applications have become increasingly popular in the healthcare industry due to their potential for streamlining processes and improving patient care. In this essay, I will explore the benefits of utilizing an e-health application, the challenges and limitations of implementing e-health applications, and the security and privacy issues associated with them.

The utilization of electronic health applications (E-health applications) has become increasingly popular in the healthcare industry, especially due to the convenience and cost savings that they provide. According to a study by E Selem et al, (2019) E-health applications have the ability to reduce healthcare costs while providing a more efficient way to deliver healthcare services. Additionally, they can help improve patient engagement and provide more personalized care. Furthermore, E-health applications allow for better data management by providing a centralized system that can store, transfer, and analyze information. This data can then be used to make informed decisions that can improve the quality of care. Finally, E-health

applications can help reduce medical errors by providing automated reminders and notifications to help healthcare professionals stay on top of tasks. Therefore, the utilization of E-health applications in healthcare can be a great asset by providing numerous benefits to both healthcare providers and patients.

The implementation of e-health applications is challenged by a number of factors. According to P. Phunchongharn, E. Hossain, D. Niyato, and their coauthors in their 2010 paper for IEEE Wireless Communications, “the main challenges for e-health applications are interoperability, scalability, privacy and security, trust, reliability and availability, and the cost of implementation” (2). Interoperability is the ability of different systems to communicate and exchange data, and is a major challenge in e-health applications. Without interoperability, different systems are unable to interact, which limits the access to data and services. Scalability is the ability of a system to expand and contract without disruption, and is another major challenge. Privacy and security are also essential components of e-health applications, as sensitive health data must be securely stored and transmitted. Trust is paramount for patients and healthcare providers to use e-health applications. Additionally, e-health applications must be reliable and available to ensure continuity of care. Finally, the cost of implementation is a challenge as the cost of developing and maintaining e-health applications is high. All of these challenges must be considered when implementing e-health applications.

In recent years, the development of efficient and secure e-health applications has been a major focus of research. As e-health applications become more and more popular, security and privacy issues become increasingly important. In their 2019 paper, S Chentharra, K Ahmed, H Wang, and F Whittaker address the security and privacy issues associated with these applications. They discuss the potential vulnerabilities that can arise in these applications, such as unauthorized access, data breaches, and privacy concerns. They also look at the measures that can be implemented to address these vulnerabilities, such as encryption, authentication, and access control. Finally, they examine the legal and ethical implications of using e-health applications, in terms of data protection, privacy, and consent. In conclusion, it is important for developers of e-health applications to take into account the security and privacy issues associated with them, particularly in light of legal and ethical considerations. By doing so, they can ensure that users of these applications are provided with the utmost security and privacy.

E-health applications offer substantial potential for providing access to health care services that are both effective and convenient. They may improve patients' quality of life by increasing the range of health care services and access to those services. E-health applications offer the advantages of facilitating cost savings through efficiency gains, improved effectiveness of health care, improved quality of health care services, reduction of medical errors, and improved communication in health care settings. These advantages may lead to better outcomes of health care and further reduce the healthcare costs.

5. E-HEALTH IN SAUDI ARABIA

As the healthcare industry continues to evolve and become more digitized, ehealth is an increasingly important part of the healthcare landscape in Saudi Arabia. This essay will explore the current landscape of ehealth in Saudi Arabia, the challenges facing its adoption, and strategies for improving accessibility. First, an overview of ehealth and its potential impact in Saudi Arabia will be discussed. Then, the challenges facing ehealth adoption in Saudi Arabia will be explored. Finally, strategies to improve ehealth accessibility in Saudi Arabia will

In recent years, ehealth has become an increasingly popular technology in the healthcare industry. It enables physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers to access patient records and other health information electronically. According to a study by Alshahrani, Stewart, and MacLure (2019), ehealth has the potential to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare in Saudi Arabia. The study found that ehealth can improve communication between patients and healthcare providers, reduce the time it takes to diagnose and treat illnesses, and increase access to healthcare services for rural and underserved populations. Additionally, ehealth can reduce the cost of healthcare services by reducing paperwork and increasing the accuracy of medical records. The study concluded that ehealth could potentially have a significant impact on the healthcare system in Saudi Arabia. As more healthcare organizations in the country adopt ehealth technologies, the potential benefits of ehealth are likely to become more apparent.

eHealth is a rapidly growing field, and Saudi Arabia is no exception. A study by A Alshahrani, D Stewart, and K MacLure in the International Journal of Medical Informatics found that there are several challenges facing eHealth adoption in Saudi Arabia. These challenges include a lack of information technology infrastructure and a lack of standardization of eHealth

systems. Additionally, the study found that there is a lack of public awareness of eHealth and its benefits, as well as a lack of understanding of how to use eHealth systems. Furthermore, the study found that there is a lack of regulations and policies related to eHealth, which can cause confusion and disincentivize its use. Finally, the study found that there is a lack of adequate investment in the necessary technology and resources for successful eHealth implementation. These challenges need to be addressed in order for eHealth to be successfully adopted in Saudi Arabia. (Alshahrani et al., 2019)

EHealth services have become increasingly important for delivering healthcare services as a result of the digital revolution. A study by A Alharbi et al. (2021) investigated strategies to improve eHealth accessibility in Saudi Arabia. The study identified a variety of barriers to eHealth service adoption including lack of awareness, low levels of digital literacy, limited access to internet and computers, and a lack of trust in the technology. The study also identified a number of strategies that could be implemented to improve eHealth accessibility in Saudi Arabia. These strategies included increasing public awareness of the benefits of eHealth services, investing in digital literacy initiatives, increasing internet access and providing more computers in healthcare facilities. Additionally, the study recommended that steps should be taken to build trust in the technology by providing more information on its safety and security. Finally, it was suggested that policies should be developed to encourage the adoption of eHealth services. These strategies could assist in overcoming some of the barriers to eHealth adoption and make eHealth services more accessible to the people of Saudi Arabia.

Overall, eHealth can have profound implications for the Saudi Arabian healthcare system and its citizens. It offers a modern, affordable, and convenient way to deliver healthcare, while providing relevant data to promote better research and planning. eHealth, if implemented efficiently, can reduce the cost of healthcare services, cope with the exponentially increasing demand for healthcare, and recognize the importance of health amongst Saudis, just like any other modern nation. With eye on the current healthcare system and its limitations, eHealth is an opportunity for Saudi Arabia to stay ahead of the competition and continue leveraging the promising technology to benefit the citizens and public health.

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