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What can we learn from the disappointments of electronic medical record systems?

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The vision of interoperable Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) and Electronic Health Records (EHRs) promised great benefits. After 30 years of implementation, many of the objectives have not been met and users as well as patients voice disappointment. This presentation will describe the original vision of EMR systems and analyze what went wrong.

Biography

C Peter Waagemann is the President of Waagemann Associates LLC and former President of mHealth Initiative Inc., a Boston based not for profit organization promoting mHealth applications nationally and internationally. Until February 2009 he was CEO of Medical Records Institute, a Boston based organization involved in applied research and functioning as an educational clearinghouse, as well as Executive Director of Center for Cell Phone Applications in HealthCare (CPAHC). Since the 1980s, he has been a visionary and promoter of electronic medical record systems (EMRs). Twenty five years ago, he started the annual conference Toward an Electronic Patient Record (TEPR) that drew several thousand attendees. He is internationally known as one of the top experts in healthcare informatics, has published both in the US and in Germany, and is a sought after speaker on EHRs, eHealth, and mHealth. He has special expertise in electronic patient record systems, standards, networking, telemedicine, and the creation of the national information infrastructure. Waagemann has testified to US Congressional committees. In 2007, Waagemann was cited as one of 20 outstanding people who make health care better (Health Leaders). Waagemann is currently based in the Greater Boston Area, MA, and Berlin, Germany.

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