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Technology, health care, and supermarkets

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In the ancient times health care applications to technology consisted only of what the clinician could observe, and then as time moved on and innovations occurred in both health care and technology, companion disciplines to healthcare such as microbiology began to grow. Was Louis Pasteur able to understand the full significance of his theory that germs caused illness? Could Joseph Lister fully appreciate how meaningful his hand washing technique would become to future surgeons? Innovation in health care often meets, as these two were with skepticism, humor, and other barriers to acceptance. The current innovations combining health care and technology such as the health care cloud, electronic health records (EHR), laboratory information systems (LIS), health information exchange (HIE), and others too numerous to discuss have the potential to take health care from a series of little shops, into a supermarket. In the ancient times, our ancestors went from shopkeeper to shopkeeper. One went to the farmer for milk and eggs, the butcher for meat, the miller for grain, the baker for bread, and so on. When is the last time anyone followed that procedure while grocery shopping? Last week millions of families went to the local supermarket. This is the direction health care is going in, in an effort to contain costs and bring more value to the customer (patients), healthcare providers are grouping together in accountable care organizations (ACO), or affiliating with hospitals.

Biography

Rebecca Fein is a health care professional with over 10 years of experience in data analytics and research, strategic planning, regulatory compliance, public health, population health management, health information management (HIM) and laboratory information management. She has established programs that have assisted more than 12,000 individuals to improve the quality of their health through research, data analysis, and coordination with local experts. Her strong ability to adapt, investigate and understand different methodologies ensure that the highest standards are reached within the healthcare industry. Rebecca is currently employed as Informatics Researcher at Laboratory Informatics Institute.

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