

# Clinical Data

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# What are clinical data?

- A datum is a single observation of a patient
- Clinical data are a collection of observations about a patient
- Each datum has four elements:
  - the patient (Amr Jamal)
  - the attribute (heart rate)
  - the value of the attribute (52 beats per minute)
  - the time of the observation (1:00 pm on 1/1/2011) or should that be 1/1/2011?



# Types of clinical data

- \* **Narrative**  
recording by clinician
- \* **Numerical measurements**  
blood pressure, temperature, lab values
- \* **Coded data**  
selection from a controlled terminology system
- \* **Textual data**  
other results reported as text
- \* **Recorded signals**  
EKG, EEG
- \* **Pictures**  
radiographs, photographs, and other images

# Use of clinical data

- \* Form basis of historical record
- \* Support communication among providers
- \* Anticipate future health problems
- \* Record standard preventive measures
- \* Coding and billing
- \* Provide a legal record
- \* Support clinical research



# Types of clinical data documents

- \* **History and physical initial assessment**
  - \* by a clinician
- \* **Progress notes**
  - \* update of progress by primary, consulting, and ancillary providers
- \* **Reports**
  - \* by specialists, ancillary providers
- \* Typical paper chart maintains all patient notes in chronological order, sometimes separated into different components



# Assessment of a stable patient

- \* Chief complaint
- \* History of the present illness
- \* History of the present illness
- \* Past medical history
- \* Social history
- \* Family history
- \* Review of systems
- \* Physical examination
- \* Testing –lab, x-ray, other
- \* Assessment
- \* plan



# Some complications of data

- \* **Circumstances of observation**  
e.g., how was heart rate taken? pulse? EKG?
- \* **Uncertainty**  
how accurate is patient reporting, measurement, device?
- \* **Time**  
what level of specificity do we need?
- \* **Imprecision vs. inaccuracy**



# Structure of clinical data

- \* Medicine lacks uniform structured vocabulary and nomenclature and nomenclature
- \* Standardization and computerization of data is benefited by standard representations (Cimino, 2007)
- \* Counter-arguments are “freedom of expression” and “art of medicine”
- \* Narrative information can be expressed in many ways, can be ambiguous





# We need better access to clinical data

- \* Missing clinical information during primary care visits (Smith, 2005)
  - \* Information reported missing in 13.6% of clinical visits
    - \* Available but outside system in 52% of instances
    - \* Estimated to adversely effect patients 44% of time
    - \* Unsuccessful searching for it took >5 minutes 35% of time
- \* Physicians have two unmet information needs for every three patients (Gorman, 1995; Ely, 1999)
- \* Secondary use of clinical data (Safran, 2007)



# Data entry

- \* General categories of data entry:
  - \* **Free-form** entry by historical methods:
    - \* writing
    - \* dictation
    - \* Typing
  - \* **Structured** (menu-driven) data entry by mouse or pen
  - \* **Speech** recognition for either of above



# ORCA CPOE order screen

zztest\_cpoe x

EPIC: Unknown: See Alerts / Adv Di... Selected Encntr: UWMC 2-UWMC Emergency Dept: Emergency: 04  
22 years DOB: ... Allergies: No Known Allergies PCP(s): TTBret

**Menu** **Menu - Inpatient**

- Clinical Notes
- Orders **Add**
- UW Medicine Notes
- Document Viewer
- Chart Summary
- Status / Plan Summary
- Alerts / Adv Dir / Code
- VIEW & PowerNote
- MINDscape
- Epic Web
- Results Review
- Result Search
- Lab
- Lab Cultures
- Lab Organism vs. Drug
- Radiology
- Pathology
- Diagnostics Other
- I&O Results
- Med Profile
- Med Admin Sum (MAR)
- Med Admin (MAR)
- Immunizations
- Med Reference
- Demographic Info
- Visits
- Allergies
- Diagnoses & Problems
- Form Browser
- Links and Reports
- Advanced Growth Chart

**Add button to add an order**

**Med Recon**

**Status Bar**

**Refresh Button**

**Orders Pane**

**Clinical Categories**

**View Pane**

**Initiate and Sign buttons can be found in the lower right corner of the screen.**

Document Medication by Hx Reconciliation Check Interactions

Print 5 minutes ago

Displayed: All Active Orders | All Inactive Orders | All Orders 5 Days Back

Order Name	Status	Details
<b>Code Status / Precautions</b>		
Code Status	Discontinued	07/14/11 9:36:00, Code Status: DNR / DNI
<b>Diet / Nutrition</b>		
Full Liquid Diet (Diet Full ...	Discontinued	07/12/11 13:53:00, SEC DIET TYPE: Carbohydrate Managed Diet
Clear Liquid Diet (Diet Cl...	Discontinued	07/12/11 13:51:00
Clear Liquid Diet (Diet Cl...	Completed	07/12/11 13:29:00
<b>Medications</b>		
prasugrel	Discontinued	10 mg, PO, Daily, Start: 07/15/11 9:00:00, Tablet
NonFormulary - Med (Lipitor)	Ordered	Lipitor, PO, Daily, 07/11/11 13:16:00 pt to take own meds
<b>Lab / Path</b>		
Complete Blood Count (...	Ordered	07/18/11 16:56:00, Routine, Stop: 07/18/11 16:56:00
<b>Diagnostics Other</b>		
Lung Volumes	Deleted	DX: Abnormal Chest X-ray, QUESTIONS ANSWERED: asdf, METH-
Spirometry	Discontinued	DX: Pleural Effusion   Pneumonia Unspecified   Preoperative Respir
Somatosensory Evoked ...	Deleted	
<b>Scheduling</b>		
Schedule Laboratory Or...	Ordered	Priority: RT, Any
Schedule Chemo Teach	Ordered	Priority: ROUTINE, Any

Diagnoses & Problems  
Related Results  
Formulary Details

Dx Table: Orders For Nurse Review

Initiate Sign



Jordan Sparks - Spander, Jason C

Log OffFileSetupListsReportsToolsHelp

Appts

Family

Account

Treat Plan

Chart

Images

Manage

Select Patient

New Rx

Perio Chart

Tooth Chart

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

32

31

30

29

28

27

26

25

24

23

22

21

20

19

18

17

PSR 233222

8-watch

15 unerupted

Patient wants his work all done before the middle of July!!!!

Talked about whitening

Patient Info

ABCO

A

Billing Type

Standard Account

Referred From

yellow pages

Date First Visit

03/17/2005

Pri Ins

Delta Dental of CA. (pending)

Sec Ins

Med Urgent

Medical Summary

Acid Reflux  
High BP

Service Notes

No Flo

Medications

none

Enter Treatment

B

F

M

O

I

D

L

Entry Status

☒ TP

☐ C

☐ Ex Cur

☐ Ex Other

☐ Referred

Missing Teeth

Movements

Primary

Planned Appointment

Show

Diagnosis

None

Caries

Recurrent (Car)

Incipient (Car)

Defect (or miss fill)

Missing (tooth struc)

Irrevers. Pulp.

Revers. Pulp.

Necrotic

Apical Perio

Abscess

Carious Pulp Exp

Cracked Tooth

Procedure List

Misc

Exams/Cleanings

Fillings

Dentures

Or Type ADA Code

OK

Or Single Click:

Amalgam

Composite

☒ Today

04/20/2006

Priority

no priority

Progress Notes

Date	Th	Surf	Dx	Description	Stat	Prov	Amount	ADA Code
04/05/2005	26		R	PFM Crown	C	DOC1	740.00	D2750
				bs.3 Carps 2%Lido/1:100k epi. Blue bite for temp. Prep. Integrity, 1/4 carp 2%Lido/1:50k epi around tooth, #2 cord, triple tray with PVS putty, PVS light body, Tempbond, PO instr, Shade "A4"				
04/21/2005				Clinical Note	EC	DOC1	0.00	Zclin
				In-Dup pano and bws for?				
04/26/2005	26		R	PFM Seat	C	DOC1	0.00	N4118
				Adjusted, polished, showed to pt, FujiCem. PO instr.				
05/03/2005	8	MF	R	Composite- 2 Surf, Anterior	TP	DOC1	140.00	D2331
				br...2 carps 2%Lido/1:100k epi. L-Pop. Z-250, Shade "A3.5"				
05/17/2005	5	MOD	R	Composite- 3 Surf, Posterior	C	DOC1	160.00	D2393
				In-3 carps 2%Lido/1:100k epi. L-Pop. Z-250, Shade "A3"				
05/17/2005	6	MFL	R	Composite- 3 Surf, Anterior	C	DOC1	175.00	D2332
				In- L-Pop. Z-250, Shade "A35"				
05/24/2005	19			Bridge retainer-Porcelain Fused to Noble Metal	C	DOC1	710.00	D6752
				In-3 Carps 2%Lido/1:100k epi. Blue bite for temp. Prep. Integrity, 1/4 carp 2%Lido/1:50k epi around tooth, #2 cord, triple tray with PVS putty, PVS light body, Tempbond, PO instr, Shade "A35"				
05/24/2005	20			Pontic-Porcelain Fused to Noble Metal	C	DOC1	710.00	D6242
05/24/2005	21			Bridge retainer-Porcelain Fused to Noble Metal	C	DOC1	710.00	D6752
06/07/2005				Clinical Note	EO	DOC1	0.00	Zclin
				In- Dup BW of #19-#21 for ins co.				
06/07/2005				Comm - Insurance				
				mb//sent xray along with claim requested by insurance for issue of pymt to be processed				
06/14/2005				Bridge Seat	C	DOC1	0.00	N4127
				br...Fuji Cem II, Fit Checker.				

All

BWs

FMXs

Panos

Photos

# Structured or menu-driven data entry

- \* Many attempts from old (Greenes, 1970; Cimino, 1987; Bell, 1994) to new (Oceania; OpenSDE – Los, 2005)
- \* Can be done via mouse or pen, with typing
- \* Benefits
  - \* Data codified for easier retrieval and analysis
  - \* Reduces ambiguity if language used consistently
- \* Drawbacks
  - \* In general, more time-consuming
  - \* Requires exhaustive vocabulary
  - \* Requires dedication to use by clinicians
- \* Alternative: Processing free text with natural language processing and tagging text (in XML)? (Johnson, 2008)



# Speech recognition for data entry

- \* Most common use is for narration
  - \* e.g., computer dictation of clinical notes
- \* An advantage is instant availability of dictated content
- \* Continuous speech recognition now commercial reality
  - \* Speaker-dependent systems require user training
  - \* speaker-independent are systems less accurate
- \* Many established systems on the market that operate on:
  - \* front-end (used by clinician) or
  - \* back-end (process dictations) (Brown, 2008)



# Coded vs. free-text data

- \* **Coded data:**

- \* Documentation of discrete data from controlled vocabulary

- \* **Free text:**

- \* Alphanumeric data that are unstructured, typically in narrative form

# Narratives tell a story.

- \* A narrative tells a story
  - \* See the patient through a description
  - \* Complicated events are easier to describe in text
- \* Undifferentiated problems
  - \* Interpretation.
    - \* “only a human can prioritize and determine what the chief complaint really is”

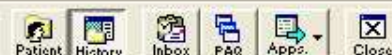






Main Office

Barclay, Joseph MD



## HOME

Demographics  
Record Vital Signs  
Nurse Documentation  
Chart Summary  
View Results

Allergies  
Immunizations  
Past Medical History  
Family History  
Social History  
Health Maintenance  
HPI / Problem List  
Review of Systems  
Physical Exam  
Procedures  
Assessment  
Disease Management  
Plan / Lab / OS / Diag  
Document Library  
E&M Coding

Coumadin  
Adult Office Visit  
Echocardiogram  
Nutrition Assessment  
Stress Master  
Stress Nuclear

Preview Offline

Patient: John Dokes

Age: 47

DOB: 03/14/1960

Current Provider: Joseph Barclay MD

Gender: Male

Current Encounter: 06/26/2007

☒ New patient☐ Established patient

Specialty IM

Visit Type Office Visit

Historian self

Referring MD | PCP Info  
Alerts Patient Service info

## Reason(s) for visit

## Brief Visit

## Chronic Problem List

## Add new problem

cough	F/U
headache	F/U
	F/U
	F/U
	F/U
	F/U

Chronic Problem	Code

Add to today's assessments ?

## Vitals Vital Signs Outside Normal Range

## Add New Vital Signs Expand Vital Signs

Date / Time	Temp F	Temp C	BP	Pulse	Rhythm	Respiration	Ht In	Ht Cm	Wt Lb	Wt Kg	Conte
06/26/2007 12:00 PM	96.4		130/90	80	regular	16	71.0		216.00		dress

Medications ☐ No Medications

## Comment

Allergies ☒ No Known Allergies

## Comment

Medication	Dose	Sig Codes	Start Date	Stop Date	Ingredient/Allergen	Brand Name
SIMVASTATIN	10MG	1T PO OD	//	//		

Health Monitor: Set Health Maintenance Protocols Set Disease Management Protocols Tobacco User: ☒ yes ☐ quit

Due:	Due:	Due:	Due:
Physical Exam //	Tetanus //	Eye Exam //	ALT/AST //
Lipid Panel 06/26/2007	PSA Test //	Foot Exam //	CPK //
Colonoscopy //		HgbA1C //	Urinalysis 06/26/2007
Sigmoidoscopy //		BMP Fasting //	Urine Micro //
FOBT x3 //		EKG 06/26/2007	TSH //
Influenza Vac //		Stress Test //	PFT //
Pneumo Vac //		Echocardiogram 06/26/2007	Chest X-ray //



06/26/2007 12:00 PM  
Master Im  
Master Im Vitals  
Medication  
Adult Office Visit  
Disease Mngt

Custom





**Ian TEST DOB 28/2/2008 GA 26+2 BW 1070**

**Liverpool 2170**

**MRN 123432**

**Day 33 - Corrected GA 31+0 1250g on 01/04**

Log

Files (0)

Images (2)

Calculator

ATTENTION: Brain scan overdue:

## Current Status

### Respiratory Support

CPAP /5 , FIO2 29

### Fluids / Feeds

160 ml/kg/day  
TPN 10% Fat 3g  
14x2 EBM 24cal (134)

### Jaundice

09/03 SBr 135 Biliblancket  
ceased 08/03

### Other

01/03 Mod PDA  
POSSIBLE NEC

### Treatments

Pentavite, Folic Acid  
Longline,

### Test Results

09/03 Na 136  
09/03 Hb 135  
09/03 Plat 265  
02/03 HUS IVH II  
01/04 Eyes ROP I

Opened 01 Apr 12:27



Add Twin

local form

**Admissions** **Respiratory** **Nutrition** **Other** **Treatments** **Test Results**

Admission

Planning

Discharge

**Liverpool Hospital**

**Admitted: 28/02/08 at 4 hours**

Admission

Age 0

Corr.GA 26

Weight 1070

76%

HC 25.5

71%

Length 35

56%

Date & Time 28/02/2008 16:30

Hospital Liverpool Hospital

MRN 123432

Bed

01

To

NICU

Reason(s) for Admission

Prematurity

Consultant

Ian Callander

Insurance

Hospital

Respiratory Distress

#### MATERNAL HISTORY

Ann is a 28 year old G2 P1 (now) woman whose blood group is O positive. She was booked to deliver at Campbelltown Hospital under the care of Kaisher however delivered at Liverpool Hospital under the care of Dr Peter Hammill. She had a history of essential hypertension. This pregnancy was complicated by hypertension of pregnancy, fetal growth restriction, Bilateral Renal Pelvis dilatation 5 - 10mm, GBS +ve swab, fever, abnormal Dopplers, prolonged rupture of membranes for 2 days, clinically suspected chorioamnionitis. Ann was treated with antenatal steroids, tocolytics, and antihypertensive drugs. Following the spontaneous onset of labour, she proceeded to a vaginal delivery. Antibiotics were given before delivery.

#### PERINATAL HISTORY

Ian was born at 13:00 hours with a birth weight of 1070 grams (76th centile). Apgars were 3 at 1 minute and 7 at 5 minutes respectively treated with intubation and ventilation. The arterial cord pH was 7.24 and the base excess -6. Ian was then retrieved to

**Added to Worksheet** 01/03

**Orders on Worksheet** 01/03

This is freetext

Freetext orders

(double click on text to delete)

Hospital Episodes	MRN	Admitted	Discharged
Liverpool Hospital	123432	28 Feb 2008 16:30	
NETS	PD12345	28 Feb 2008 15:00	28 Feb 2008 16:30
Campbelltown Hospital	222222	28 Feb 2008 13:00	28 Feb 2008 15:00

**Add Another Admission**

**Delete MRN .. then click again to Delete Episode**

# Issues with coded data

- \* “pick from a list” allows wrong selection
- \* Compliance concerns
- \* Over documentation for care
- \* cloning



# Coded clinical data enables EHR advanced functionality

- \* Alerts
- \* CDS
- \* Best documentation practices
- \* Multi-media reporting
- \* Multiple output formats
- \* Data mining



# Questions for Discussion



- \* Will work flow disruptions and time inefficiencies preclude most providers from accepting the need for coded data entry?
- \* Since it is not practical to code every single data in the EHR, in what bases we can select what data to code?

# In summary,

- \* Types of clinical data
- \* Types of clinical data documents
- \* Use of clinical data
- \* Access to clinical data
- \* Data entry
- \* Coded vs. un-coded data
- \* Structured vs. free-form data
- \* Speech recognition

