



Enhancing Usability in Electronic Health Records: A User-Centered Approach to Workflow Integration and Training

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Abstract

Background: Electronic Health Records (EHRs) have transformed healthcare delivery by consolidating patient data and enabling immediate access to essential information. Although they have the capacity to improve clinical workflows and decision-making, usability issues continue to pose a substantial obstacle to effective EHR deployment. Challenges including interface complexity, workflow misalignment, and user dissatisfaction adversely affect provider efficiency and jeopardize patient safety.

Aim: This article seeks to examine techniques for enhancing the usability of EHR systems, focusing on user-centered design, interaction with clinical workflows, and improved training protocols to rectify existing deficiencies..

Methods: The research utilizes a mixed-methods approach, comprising a systematic examination of peer-reviewed literature qualitative analysis of usability difficulties via case studies, and quantitative data regarding the effects of usability enhancements in clinical environments. Interviews with healthcare professionals offer further insights into actual usability issues and possible remedies..

Results: Findings indicate crucial areas of improvement, including the need for configurable interfaces, efficient procedures, and improved training tailored to varied user groups. Case studies illustrate quantifiable improvements in clinician efficiency, user happiness, and patient safety indicators after implementing usability-centered treatments.

Conclusion: Enhancing EHR usability is essential for optimizing its transformative capacity in healthcare. A user-centric methodology, combined with comprehensive training and workflow integration, can

substantially alleviate usability issues. Cooperative initiatives across stakeholders, such as legislators, developers, and healthcare organizations, are crucial for fostering sustainable advancements.

Keywords: Electronic Health Records, usability, healthcare technology, user-centered design, workflow integration, patient safety, clinician efficiency.

Introduction

Electronic Health Records (EHRs) are digital systems that aggregate, structure, and facilitate access to patient health information in a secure and centralized manner. EHRs are extensive digital warehouses of patient-related information that allow healthcare providers to document clinical interactions, access historical records, and make informed decisions efficiently. In contrast to conventional paper records, Electronic Health Records (EHRs) are engineered to consolidate multiple facets of patient care, encompassing medical history, laboratory data, diagnostic imaging, and medication prescriptions. These technologies are essential for ensuring continuity of care, augmenting clinical decision-making, and optimizing patient outcomes via efficient data access and interoperability. The importance of EHRs in the healthcare industry is paramount. Theoretically, frameworks like the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) and the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) emphasize the significance of usability, perceived utility, and ease of integration as critical factors for effective EHR adoption [1, 2]. The implementation of EHRs corresponds with the quadruple purpose of healthcare: augmenting patient experiences, advancing population health, decreasing costs, and guaranteeing provider satisfaction. Notwithstanding their potential, usability difficulties persist as a significant worry. Inefficient workflows, suboptimal interface design, and excessive cognitive burden on users frequently diminish their efficacy, resulting in discontent among healthcare workers and negative patient outcomes [3]. Recent advancements in EHR design and functionality have aimed to rectify these shortcomings. Current trends encompass the incorporation of artificial intelligence (AI) for predictive analytics, the utilization of voice-activated documentation tools, and the progression of interoperability standards, including Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) [4, 5]. These technologies seek to alleviate administrative costs, augment data sharing among healthcare systems, and promote usability through user-centered design concepts. The COVID-19 epidemic has expedited the integration of telemedicine functionalities within EHR platforms, facilitating remote monitoring and virtual consultations [6]. Notwithstanding these breakthroughs, the usability of EHRs remains a pivotal component affecting their efficacy, requiring continuous endeavors to enhance their design and performance.

This study examines techniques to improve the usability of EHR systems, concentrating on resolving current difficulties using evidence-based solutions. Subsequent to this introduction, the initial section presents an overview of usability difficulties in contemporary EHR systems, analyzing their effects on healthcare delivery. The second segment examines the significance of user-centered design in enhancing EHR functioning. The next sections explore particular solutions, encompassing workflow integration, customization alternatives, and advanced training initiatives. The fifth section presents case studies that illustrate successful usability enhancements. The report finishes with recommendations for policymakers and developers to promote sustained improvements in EHR usability.

Background on EHR Usability

Background on EHR Usability: Key Focus Areas

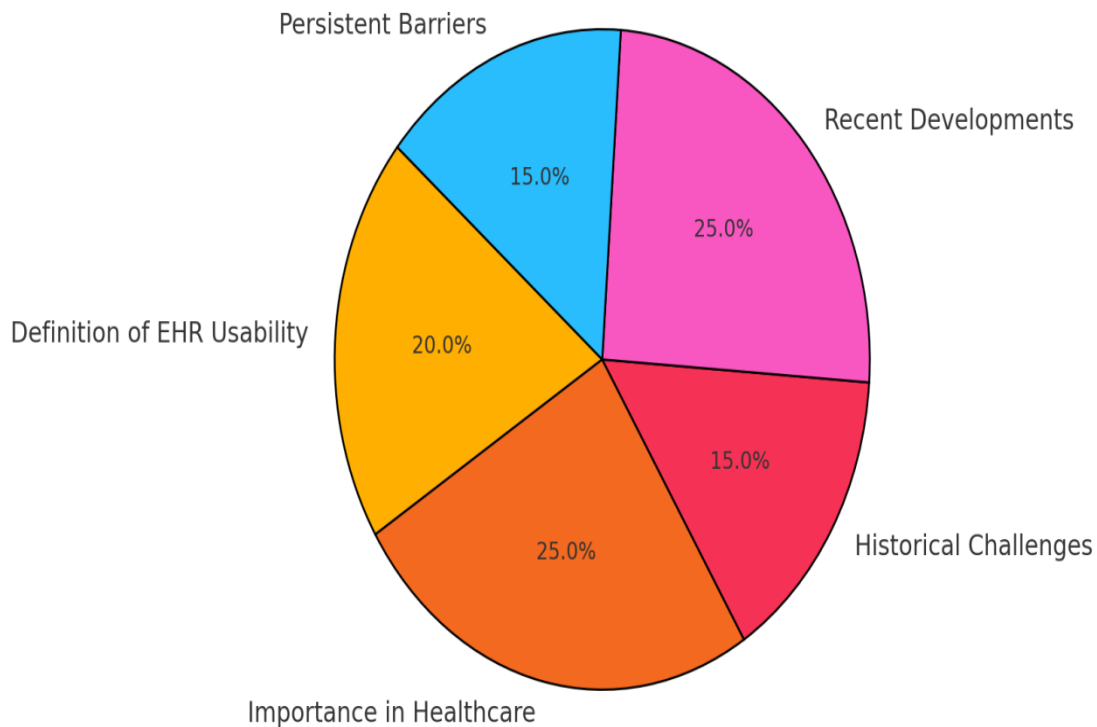


Figure 1The figure "Background on EHR Usability: Key Focus Areas" has been generated and saved. You can download it using the link below:

The usability of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) denotes the extent to which these systems facilitate healthcare workers in performing patient care activities efficiently, effectively, and satisfactorily. Usability comprises various factors, such as system learnability, mistake tolerance, workflow alignment, and user satisfaction. Despite considerable progress in EHR technology, usability issues continue to pose a substantial obstacle to effective system adoption and use in clinical environments [7]. Confronting these obstacles is crucial for maximizing the efficacy of EHRs in advancing healthcare delivery, enhancing patient outcomes, and alleviating provider burnout.

Defining EHR Usability

The usability of electronic health records (EHR) is based on human-computer interaction concepts that prioritize the design of systems in accordance with user needs, cognitive processes, and task-specific demands. Insufficient usability in EHR systems frequently presents as convoluted navigation routes, an overdependence on manual data input, and disjointed workflows that hinder clinical decision-making processes [8]. These difficulties impede the efficiency of healthcare practitioners and jeopardize patient safety by elevating the risk of paperwork errors and delays in care delivery [9]. The notion of usability is dynamic; as technology advances, usability expectations change, requiring continual modification of EHR interfaces and features to satisfy new requirements.

The Importance of EHR Usability

The functionality of EHR systems directly affects various stakeholders within the healthcare ecosystem. Poorly constructed systems lead to cognitive overload, frustration, and burnout among practitioners, which is an increasing concern in the healthcare profession. Studies demonstrate that ineffective EHR usability increases administrative workload, with physicians often spending more time recording patient visits than delivering direct treatment [10, 11]. From a patient's viewpoint, usability impacts the precision and

promptness of clinical recording, hence directly influencing the quality of care and safety. Moreover, healthcare organizations encounter economic repercussions stemming from productivity declines and the necessity for recurrent retraining when usability deficiencies obstruct workflow integration [12].

Evolution of EHR Usability Challenges

The development of EHR systems underscores persistent issues in usability. Early-generation EHRs were predominantly developed for administrative purposes, emphasizing billing and compliance over clinical operations. With the expansion of legal requirements, notably the implementation of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act in 2009, the swift adoption of EHRs frequently surpassed the integration of usability principles [13]. Subsequent years saw the advocacy for interoperability and meaningful use criteria complicate system design, resulting in convoluted interfaces and redundancy that exasperated end users [14].

Recent Developments and Trends

Recent advancements in EHR usability have aimed to alleviate these persistent challenges through new strategies. User-centered design (UCD) approaches, which entail iterative testing and consultation with end users, have gained significance as a means to customize technologies to clinical procedures [15]. The incorporation of sophisticated technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) and natural language processing (NLP) provides solutions for automating regular operations, including documentation and data retrieval, hence alleviating the cognitive load on healthcare providers [16]. Advancements in interoperability, especially the implementation of the Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) standard, seek to improve data interchange among diverse systems, thus enhancing usability in multi-organizational environments [17].

Persistent Challenges

Notwithstanding these gains, numerous usability issues endure. The absence of consistency in interface design among EHR suppliers results in variations that perplex users and hinder training initiatives. Furthermore, usability challenges are exacerbated in specialized environments, such as pediatrics or cancer, where distinctive clinical workflows are insufficiently accommodated by generic system architectures [18]. Privacy and security issues further hamper enhancements in usability, as the equilibrium between accessibility and stringent data protection measures presents a challenging trade-off [19].

Comprehending the complex nature of EHR usability is essential for facilitating significant enhancements. By tackling these difficulties with evidence-based methodologies and utilizing emerging technology, the healthcare sector may refine EHR systems to assist doctors, improve patient safety, and attain operational efficiencies.

Challenges in EHR Usability

The usability of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) has emerged as a critical focal point in healthcare technology, directly impacting workflow efficiency, provider satisfaction, and patient outcomes. Despite significant advancements, EHR systems face persistent usability challenges that hinder their optimal functionality and user adoption. These challenges primarily encompass interface design limitations, workflow integration issues, cognitive workload, data interoperability, and security concerns.

Interface Design Limitations

A major usability issue in EHR systems is the design of user interfaces that do not correspond to the requirements of various healthcare professionals. Numerous EHRs emphasize data acquisition and adherence to regulatory criteria rather than user-friendly navigation and simplicity of use. Disorganized interfaces, overdependence on text, and insufficient visual clarity can lead to prolonged learning curves and recurrent user mistakes [20]. Research indicates that doctors allocate more time to accessing electronic health records than to patient interaction, resulting in dissatisfaction and burnout [21, 22].

Workflow Integration Issues

The usefulness of EHR is significantly affected by its interaction with clinical operations. Inadequately constructed systems disrupt established routines, compelling providers to modify their operations to accommodate the EHR instead than the other way around. Documentation requirements may compel frequent task switching, hence elevating the probability of errors and diminishing efficiency [23]. Integrating workflows effectively poses a difficulty due to discrepancies in clinical procedures among various specialties and institutions [24].

Cognitive Workload and User Fatigue

Cognitive overload constitutes a significant impediment to EHR use. The intricate nature of tasks involved in inputting, retrieving, and processing information from EHRs imposes a considerable cognitive load on users. The disjointed structure of numerous systems necessitates that doctors navigate various screens, tabs, and dropdown menus, resulting in heightened mental fatigue and diminished productivity [25, 26]. Moreover, alarm fatigue resulting from an overabundance of system notifications intensifies user stress, which may result in the oversight of crucial alerts [27].

Data Interoperability Challenges

The utility of EHR is further impeded by inadequate compatibility between systems. Numerous EHRs function in isolation, hindering the fluid interchange of patient information among institutions and departments. The absence of interoperability results in redundancies, delays in care, and incomplete patient information, thus diminishing the system's utility for physicians [28]. Initiatives to create standardized data-sharing protocols, exemplified by the Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR), remain in development, rendering interoperability an ongoing challenge [29].

Security and Privacy Concerns

Achieving equilibrium between usability and security remains a continual problem in EHR design. Although strong security measures are crucial for safeguarding sensitive patient information, excessively rigorous authentication processes may impede accessibility and interrupt operations. Frequent login mandates, timeouts, and multi-step verification procedures frequently exasperate users and impede efficient system navigation [30]. Moreover, apprehensions regarding data breaches inhibit physicians from fully utilizing EHR capabilities, including remote access and patient data exchange [31].

Addressing Usability Challenges

Addressing these difficulties necessitates a comprehensive strategy. Enhancements in design, including the use of user-centered design principles, can render interfaces more intuitive and diminish cognitive strain. Integrating modern technologies like as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning can improve predictive capacities and optimize procedures. Moreover, promoting collaboration among EHR vendors, physicians, and regulatory authorities is essential to ensure that systems fulfill user requirements while maintaining security and interoperability[33]. The issues of EHR usability involve a complex interaction of technical, organizational, and human elements. Resolving these difficulties is essential for optimizing healthcare delivery, increasing provider satisfaction, and ultimately improved patient care.

Strategies for Improving EHR Usability

Improving the usability of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) is a vital goal in contemporary healthcare systems. Enhanced usability directly influences physician satisfaction, workflow efficiency, and patient outcomes. Healthcare organizations and EHR vendors must implement a comprehensive plan that includes user-centered design concepts, innovative technology, training programs, and regulatory uniformity to tackle current difficulties.

User-Centered Design (UCD) Principles

Integrating user-centered design (UCD) principles during the development process is one of the most effective techniques for enhancing EHR usability. UCD prioritizes iterative feedback from end-users, like as physicians, nurses, and administrative personnel, to guarantee that the system conforms to actual workflows [34]. Studies have shown that systems developed using user-centered design principles are more intuitive, necessitating less cognitive effort, hence decreasing errors and improving efficiency [35, 36]. Prototyping, usability testing, and scenario-based evaluations are critical elements of this methodology.

Incorporation of Advanced Technologies

Advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, can markedly enhance EHR usability. AI-powered natural language processing (NLP) allows doctors to record interactions via speech recognition, reducing the necessity for human data entry [37]. Machine learning algorithms can automate repetitive tasks, such as identifying probable medication interactions or recommending therapeutic orders, thereby alleviating cognitive burden [38]. Furthermore, predictive analytics can improve decision-making by furnishing doctors with actionable insights derived from patient data trends [39].

Streamlined Workflow Integration

To enhance usability, EHRs must interface smoothly with current clinical workflows. Customizable interfaces enable physicians to tailor dashboards and navigation routes according to their responsibilities and preferences, hence reducing superfluous clicks and navigation [40]. Moreover, functionalities like single sign-on (SSO) and context-aware systems facilitate seamless task transitions, allowing physicians to concentrate on patient care instead of system operations [41]. Facilitating compatibility with other healthcare systems using interoperability standards, such as FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources), significantly improves workflow integration [42].

Enhanced Training and Support

Effective training programs are needed to maximize the usability of EHR systems. Training must extend beyond initial deployment and evolve continuously to accommodate system modifications and user requirements [43]. Interactive, role-specific training modules and simulation exercises can enhance user confidence and proficiency [44]. Additionally, on-demand support, including integrated help features and immediate assistance from IT professionals, enables users to resolve issues swiftly [45].

Focus on Interoperability

Enhancing EHR usability necessitates a robust focus on interoperability, facilitating seamless data sharing among systems and healthcare organizations. Interoperability eradicates duplicative data entry and furnishes clinicians with complete patient information, hence improving decision-making [46]. Government regulations, exemplified by the 21st Century Cures Act in the United States, underscore the significance of open data standards to promote interoperability [47]. The adoption of these standards by EHR companies guarantees a uniform and intuitive experience across platforms.

Reduction of Cognitive Load

Strategies to mitigate cognitive burden are essential for enhancing EHR usability. Streamlined navigation, intuitive interface designs, and less dependence on excessive alerts and notifications enhance the overall experience [48]. Adaptive systems that assimilate user choices and anticipate workflow patterns reduce cognitive burdens, enabling doctors to concentrate on essential duties [49]. Adjustable alert thresholds can alleviate alarm fatigue, guaranteeing that only critical alerts are transmitted [50].

Continuous Feedback and Iterative Improvement

The systematic collecting of user feedback is crucial for continuous improvements in EHR usability. Clinician satisfaction surveys, focus groups, and system utilization statistics yield significant insights into

system performance and challenges. EHR suppliers and healthcare institutions must include methods for iterative updates to ensure systems adapt to evolving user needs and regulatory requirements [52].

Regulatory and Policy Support

Regulatory frameworks are essential in advancing the usability of electronic health records (EHR). Policies that mandate usability standards and promote vendor accountability guarantee that systems fulfill essential criteria for functionality and accessibility [53]. Cooperation among regulatory agencies, healthcare practitioners, and technology innovators is crucial for establishing a cohesive vision for EHR usability [54].

Enhancing EHR usability necessitates a comprehensive strategy that incorporates user-centered design, cutting-edge technologies, interoperability, and continuous training. By thoroughly resolving usability difficulties, healthcare businesses can elevate clinician satisfaction, minimize errors, and boost patient care results. A dedication to ongoing innovation and cooperation among stakeholders is crucial to fully actualize the promise of HER systems.

Impacts of Improved EHR Usability

Enhanced Electronic Health Record (EHR) usability significantly influences healthcare delivery, resulting in increased clinician satisfaction, better patient outcomes, and improved system efficiency. The beneficial impacts reach beyond individual users to enhance organizational performance and ensure policy compliance, establishing usability enhancements as a crucial method for the advancement of global healthcare systems.

Enhanced Clinician Satisfaction and Productivity

The enhancement of EHR usability directly mitigates practitioner burnout, a widespread problem intensified by difficult and unintuitive technologies [55]. Intuitive interfaces and optimized workflows diminish the cognitive burden on healthcare practitioners, enabling them to concentrate on patient care rather than administrative duties [56]. Studies demonstrate that configurable dashboards and streamlined navigation markedly improve task completion rates and user satisfaction [57, 58]. Moreover, less paperwork time affords doctors increased direct patient connection, enhancing the quality of care and professional satisfaction [59].

Improved Patient Safety and Outcomes

Improved EHR usability directly correlates with enhanced patient safety and clinical results. User-friendly systems mitigate errors associated with data entry and retrieval, hence diminishing the likelihood of unfavorable events [60]. Predictive analytics and clinical decision support technologies facilitate the prompt identification of patient hazards, hence improving diagnostic precision and treatment strategies [61]. Studies suggest that enhanced alert systems, customized to clinical relevance, considerably decrease alert fatigue and improve response rates to urgent warnings [62]. Moreover, enhanced EHR systems promote interoperability, ensuring comprehensive patient data is accessible and facilitating coordinated care among multidisciplinary teams [63].

Operational Efficiency and Cost Savings

From an operational standpoint, enhanced EHR usability results in considerable efficiency improvements and cost reductions. Efficient systems eliminate redundancy in data entry and decrease the necessity for significant training, hence reducing operational expenses [64]. Efficiency gained from streamlined workflows results in enhanced patient capacity, hence augmenting revenue opportunities for healthcare institutions [65]. Interoperable EHR systems enhance communication among departments, minimizing delays in care delivery and alleviating administrative bottlenecks [66].

Data-Driven Decision-Making and Research Advancements

Improved usability promotes the gathering and examination of high-quality data, fostering evidence-based decision-making and clinical research [67]. Intuitive EHR systems equipped with sophisticated data

visualization tools enable doctors and administrators to discern trends and deficiencies in treatment, facilitating targeted interventions [68]. Furthermore, researchers gain from enhanced data accessibility and standardization, which promotes collaboration and expedites progress in medical science [69].

Equity in Healthcare Delivery

Enhanced EHR usability also aids in promoting health equity. Intuitive systems that integrate several languages and cultural settings promote inclusivity and accessibility for marginalized populations [70]. Features that include social determinants of health (SDOH) data into electronic health records (EHRs) empower practitioners to meet comprehensive patient requirements, thereby diminishing inequities in care outcomes [71].

Compliance with Regulatory Standards

Enhanced EHR usability positively influences regulatory compliance. Systems aligned with legislation like the 21st Century Cures Act facilitate seamless data sharing and patient access to health information [72]. These improvements not only prevent penalties but also foster patient trust by exhibiting transparency and accountability in data handling [73]. The effects of enhanced EHR usability are extensive, benefiting clinicians, patients, and healthcare organizations alike. Targeted usability enhancements can lead to increased enjoyment, safety, efficiency, and equity. As healthcare systems increasingly depend on digital tools, promoting EHR usability will be essential for attaining optimal outcomes and fostering the advancement of contemporary healthcare.

Future Directions for EHR Usability

Improving the accessibility of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) is essential for tackling ongoing difficulties and fulfilling the changing requirements of contemporary healthcare systems. The future of EHR usability depends on the integration of sophisticated technologies, the promotion of user-centered design, and the creation of frameworks for interoperability and customization. These directives seek to streamline clinical workflows, improve patient outcomes, and promote a more efficient and resilient healthcare infrastructure.

Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) are disruptive technologies set to alter the usability of electronic health records (EHR). AI-driven predictive analytics can enhance clinical decision-making by detecting potential patient dangers, proposing diagnostic routes, and advising customized treatment strategies [74, 75]. Natural language processing (NLP) systems can automate data entry, transcribe audio inputs, and extract pertinent clinical information from unstructured data, therefore substantially alleviating the documentation burden [76]. Integrating AI-driven clinical decision support systems into EHRs enables real-time assistance for physicians, hence improving accuracy and efficiency.

User-Centered Design and Customization

Future EHR systems must implement user-centered design approaches that prioritize the requirements and workflows of healthcare practitioners. Customizable interfaces enabling physicians to personalize dashboards, shortcuts, and warnings can diminish cognitive burden and enhance task efficiency [78]. Furthermore, usability assessment during the development phase helps guarantee that EHR systems conform to the practical requirements of clinical settings [79]. Human factors engineering, which encompasses ergonomic and psychological considerations, will be pivotal in the design of intuitive and user-friendly technologies [80].

Interoperability as a Core Focus

Interoperability is crucial for the future usage of electronic health records, facilitating seamless data transmission among various healthcare systems. The implementation of universal data standards, including Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR), guarantees seamless access to and sharing of patient information. Interoperable EHR systems improve care coordination, minimize redundancies, and

enable patients to access their health data [82]. Moreover, interoperability enhances collaboration across interdisciplinary teams, promoting a comprehensive approach to patient care [83].

Enhancing Data Visualization and Decision Support

Advanced data visualization technologies will be essential for enhancing EHR usability, offering clinicians clear and actionable information. Dashboards that present critical performance metrics, trends, and alarms in real-time facilitate informed decision-making [84]. Visual analytics, like heat maps and graphs, can emphasize essential patient data, facilitating doctors in prioritizing and addressing urgent concerns [85]. Future EHR systems must enhance decision support capabilities to deliver contextually pertinent suggestions that conform to contemporary evidence-based practices [86].

Emphasis on Mobile and Remote Accessibility

The growing frequency of telemedicine and remote patient monitoring requires EHR systems that are accessible via mobile devices. Future EHRs must be adapted for smartphones and tablets, enabling physicians to access patient data, update records, and communicate with teams from any location [87]. The integration of wearable gadgets and Internet of Things (IoT) technology will augment remote patient care, providing doctors with uninterrupted access to real-time data [88].

Addressing Ethical and Security Challenges

As EHR systems advance, it is essential to address ethical and security problems. Advanced encryption techniques, multi-factor authentication, and blockchain technology can protect patient data from breaches [89]. Ethical frameworks governing the utilization of AI in electronic health records are essential to guarantee transparency, accountability, and equity. Moreover, cultivating patient trust via stringent data governance policies would be essential for the implementation of modern EHR systems [91].

Training and Change Management

The effective execution of future EHR systems necessitates continuous training and change management. Tailored training packages for various user groups can guarantee proficiency and confidence in utilizing EHR systems [92]. Change management solutions that engage stakeholders early in the design and implementation phases can enhance user acceptance and reduce opposition. Ongoing feedback loops and adaptive learning techniques will facilitate system evolution in accordance with user requirements [94]. The future of EHR usability depends on utilizing new technology, emphasizing user-centered design, and promoting interoperability. These directives seek to mitigate existing constraints while equipping healthcare systems for forthcoming challenges. By emphasizing innovation, cooperation, and inclusivity, EHR systems can realize their full potential as catalysts for enhanced patient care and healthcare efficiency.

Recommendations for Stakeholders

Improving the usability of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) is a multifaceted challenge that requires the active participation and collaboration of key stakeholders, including healthcare providers, policymakers, system developers, and patients. The following recommendations aim to provide a structured approach to addressing usability challenges, grounded in recent scholarly evidence and best practices.

1. Engage Healthcare Providers in the Design Process

Healthcare providers are the principal users of EHR systems, rendering their participation in the design and development process essential. Stakeholders must adopt participatory design techniques that enable clinicians to offer direct input on features, workflows, and interface usability (No. [95]). Incorporating real-world clinical scenarios during the development process guarantees that solutions conform to actual practices, hence minimizing workflow disruptions and cognitive burden.

2. Prioritize Interoperability Standards

The absence of smooth data interchange among various EHR platforms continues to be a significant usability obstacle. Policymakers and system developers must prioritize the implementation of interoperability standards, such as Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR), to improve system communication (No. [96]). Interoperability minimizes duplicate documentation and enables full, real-time access to patient information, enhancing decision-making and outcomes. The absence of smooth data interchange among various EHR platforms continues to be a significant usability obstacle. Policymakers and system developers must prioritize the implementation of interoperability standards, such as Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR), to improve system communication (No. [96]). Interoperability minimizes duplicate documentation and enables full, real-time access to patient information, enhancing decision-making and outcomes.

3. Enhance Training and Education for Users

Effective training is fundamental to EHR usability. Healthcare institutions must deliver thorough, role-specific training that encompasses both the technical and operational dimensions of EHR systems (No. [97]). Continuous education aligned with system functionality improvements helps maintain user proficiency, decrease resistance to adoption, and minimize errors.

4. Leverage Advanced Technologies

System engineers ought to integrate advanced technologies, like artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, to improve usability. Artificial intelligence can optimize data entry, automate monotonous procedures, and deliver predictive analytics to aid clinicians in making educated decisions (No. [98]). Moreover, speech recognition and natural language processing technologies can streamline interactions with electronic health records, minimizing paperwork time and enhancing user satisfaction.

5. Implement Usability Metrics and Continuous Feedback Mechanisms

The assessment of EHR usability must be a continuous endeavor. Stakeholders must develop common usability measures to evaluate system performance and pinpoint areas for enhancement (No. [99]). Consistent feedback mechanisms that gather user insights via surveys, focus groups, and performance analytics can guide iterative improvements, ensuring that systems adapt to the changing requirements of users.

6. Foster Collaboration Between Developers and Regulators

Cooperation between EHR developers and regulatory authorities is essential to synchronize usability objectives with compliance mandates. Policymakers must provide explicit rules for usability testing inside certification processes, prioritizing user-centered design principles (No. [100]). Developers must collaborate closely with authorities to harmonize innovation with compliance to data security and privacy regulations.

7. Involve Patients as Stakeholders

Patients are progressively interacting with electronic health record systems via portals and mobile applications. Developers must prioritize patient-centered usability in the design of these products, including straightforward navigation, accessibility, and clear presentation of health information (No. [101]). Improving the patient experience fosters involvement and facilitates shared decision-making in healthcare.

8. Secure Funding for EHR Optimization

Healthcare businesses frequently have budgetary limitations that restrict expenditures in usability enhancements. Stakeholders must promote funding initiatives at the organizational, governmental, and charitable levels to facilitate EHR optimization projects (No. [102]). Allocating money for usability research, infrastructure enhancements, and personnel training is crucial for ongoing advancements.

9. Address Burnout and Workload Concerns

Usability problems with electronic health records are closely associated with doctor fatigue. Stakeholders must emphasize the design of solutions that alleviate administrative constraints through streamlined paperwork and enhanced workflow integration (No. [103]). This can be accomplished via customizable dashboards, optimized order input procedures, and the removal of superfluous alerts and notifications.

10. Promote Global Collaboration

The issues of EHR usability are not limited to certain geographies or systems. International engagement among stakeholders can enhance the exchange of best practices, lessons learned, and new solutions (No. [104]). Conferences, research collaborations, and international initiatives can propel breakthroughs in usability throughout various healthcare settings. Enhancing EHR usability is a collective obligation requiring synchronized efforts from all parties. By involving healthcare providers in design processes, emphasizing interoperability, utilizing advanced technology, and encouraging ongoing feedback, stakeholders can develop systems that are user-friendly, efficient, and responsive to the intricate requirements of contemporary healthcare. A persistent dedication to these ideas will improve usability, boost patient outcomes, increase provider satisfaction, and elevate overall healthcare system performance.

Conclusion

The advancement of Electronic Health Records (EHR) usability signifies a crucial development in the transformation of healthcare systems, seeking to mitigate the difficulties encountered by healthcare practitioners and enhance patient care delivery. The usability of electronic health records, which includes intuitive interfaces, efficient data management, and interoperability, is essential for enabling healthcare practitioners to concentrate on therapeutic responsibilities rather than administrative activities. Despite considerable progress, obstacles including as cognitive overload, disjointed workflows, and insufficient interoperability persist in obstructing the complete actualization of EHR potential. Confronting these difficulties necessitates a comprehensive strategy that incorporates technology innovation, user-centric design, and stringent regulatory frameworks.

Enhanced EHR usability significantly impacts healthcare. By alleviating physician burnout, augmenting data precision, and promoting superior decision-making, it immediately enhances patient outcomes and operational efficacy. The amalgamation of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and mobile technology offers unparalleled prospects for enhancing EHR performance. These advancements facilitate predictive analytics, natural language processing, and real-time data visualization, thereby enhancing healthcare operations.

The future of EHR usability focuses on interoperability, personalization, and security. Interoperable systems that enable smooth data exchange across platforms will enhance collaborative, patient-centered treatment. Customizable interfaces that address varied user requirements will improve acceptance and satisfaction, while enhanced cybersecurity protocols will safeguard important health information.

Continuous investment in research, stakeholder participation, and extensive training programs is needed to attain these objectives. By adopting these measures, healthcare systems may guarantee that EHRs realize their potential as transformative instruments for enhancing healthcare delivery and outcomes. Ultimately, addressing EHR usability will promote clinical efficiency and improve the quality and equity of care globally.

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تحسين قابلية الاستخدام في السجلات الصحية الإلكترونية: نهج قائم على المستخدم لتكامل سير العمل والتدريب.

الملخص:

الخلفية: تواجه السجلات الصحية الإلكترونية (EHR) تحديات كبيرة تتعلق بقابليتها للاستخدام، مما يعيق الكفاءة السريرية ويزيد من أعباء العمل على مقدمي الرعاية الصحية. على الرغم من التحسينات التقنية، لا تزال هناك عقبات تؤثر على رضا المستخدمين ونتائج المرضى. يتزايد الاهتمام بتحسين قابلية الاستخدام لضمان استفادة النظم الصحية من إمكانيات السجلات الإلكترونية بشكل كامل.

الهدف: يهدف هذا البحث إلى استكشاف التحديات المرتبطة بقابلية استخدام السجلات الصحية الإلكترونية، واقتراح استراتيجيات فعالة لتحسينها، وتقييم الآثار الإيجابية لهذه التحسينات على النظام الصحي.

الطرق: اعتمدت الدراسة على مراجعة منهجية وتحليل شامل للأدبيات الحديثة من عام 2020 إلى 2022، مع التركيز على القضايا المرتبطة بتصميم واجهات المستخدم، تكامل الأنظمة، والتدخلات التقنية المبتكرة.

النتائج: يُظهر النتائج أن تحسين قابلية الاستخدام يؤدي إلى تقليل الإرهاق الوظيفي لدى الأطباء، وتعزيز كفاءة سير العمل، وتحسين دقة البيانات، مما يساهم في تحقيق نتائج إيجابية للمرضى. تقنيات مثل الذكاء الاصطناعي والتحليل التنبؤي توفر إمكانيات كبيرة لتحسين التجربة السريرية.

الخلاصة: تعد تحسينات قابلية استخدام السجلات الصحية الإلكترونية أمراً بالغ الأهمية لتطوير النظم الصحية. يتطلب النجاح في هذا المجال اعتماد استراتيجيات شاملة تشمل تصميم واجهات مبنية على احتياجات المستخدمين، وتعزيز التكامل بين الأنظمة، وتطوير بروتوكولات تعليم وتدريب فعالة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: السجلات الصحية الإلكترونية، قابلية الاستخدام، التحسين التقني، الذكاء الاصطناعي، الكفاءة السريرية، نتائج المرضى.