

Google Groups

What We're Reading - July 31, 2018

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Posted in group: FPF-IAF Health Initiative



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FPF-IAF Joint Health Initiative

Research and Reports

- Researchers at the University of Sydney have found that many popular direct-to-consumer (DTC) [mHealth apps that are designed to help those with mental health challenges are not actually providing sound advice to users](#) on how to and when to seek treatment, and may actually lead to over diagnosis.
- A report from the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (ITIF), [“Why Stronger Privacy Regulations Do Not Spur Increased Internet Use,”](#) has revealed that despite the conventional belief that stronger privacy regulations increase consumer trust and therefore lead to enhanced technology use, the relationship between regulation and consumer trust is not linear and additional regulation actually restricts the supply of digital technologies.
- Deloitte has released its [2018 Surveys of US Health Care Consumers and Physicians](#), which surveyed over 620 US primary care and specialty physicians and found that:
 - 33% of doctors cited security and privacy of patient information as a barrier to adoption of virtual care technologies; and
 - 36% of doctors cited potential medical errors as a barrier to adoption of virtual care technologies.

In Law and Government

- The FDA has published a guidance, [“Use of Electronic Health Record Data in Clinical Investigations,”](#) to help sponsors, clinical investigators, IRBs, and other interested parties on the use of EHRs in FDA-regulated clinical investigations; promote the interoperability of EH; and ensure the quality and integrity of EHR data used in clinical investigations.
- [The VA and IBM Watson Health have announced an extension of their 2 year partnership](#), which was part of the Cancer Moonshot Initiative, to at least June 2019 to bring AI and genomic analytics to cancer care to enhance precision oncology.
- The NIH has made [the largest set of medical imaging data \(containing over 32,000 medical images\) called “DeepLesion” available to the public](#) to help advance the accuracy of lesion detection through deep neural networks.
- The GAO issued a report outlining how [HHS and CMS have put the privacy of users’ data on state-based marketplaces and Medicare beneficiary data at risk](#) by not addressing fully requirements to:
 - establish a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy and performing effective oversight;
 - secure federal systems and information;
 - protect cyber critical infrastructure; and
 - protect privacy and sensitive data.
- [The NIH and Google Cloud have partnered to advance computing on large biomedical datasets](#) within a new initiative, “Science and Technology Research Infrastructure for Discovery, Experimentation, and

Sustainability (STRIDES).”

- HHS is planning to issue requests for information (RFIs) about changing the HIPAA Privacy Rule and 42 CFR Part 2 to make it easier to fight the opioid addiction crisis.

New AI/Machine Learning Technologies in Health

- Image-based
 - The London-based startup, [Digital Surgery](#), has created an AI system, described as a “Google Maps for surgery,” that helps support surgical teams by leveraging computer vision and camera to analyze what is happening during surgery and cross-reference it with surgical guides to predict next steps.
 - Researchers from UCLA and UCSF have created [Neuroreader](#), a software that uses AI to compute the physical size and volume of brain regions to help detect whether patients have brain atrophies associated with Alzheimer’s disease from MRI scans.
- EHR-based
 - University of Plymouth researchers have developed a [machine learning model that can predict undiagnosed dementia](#) by analyzing patient data from general practitioner surgeries collected by the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK.

Health Tech/Privacy News

- FPF along with leading consumer genetic testing companies 23andMe, Ancestry, and Helix released [Privacy Best Practices for Consumer Genetic Testing Services](#), which provides detailed guidelines for the collection, retention, sharing, and use of consumer genetic data.
- [Rite Aid is investing in telehealth kiosks with InTouch Health](#), a telehealth provider, which will provide its virtual care platform for the kiosks and other alternative care sites.
- [Tufts University Researchers have created a “smart bandage”](#) that can monitor a chronic wound for infection and deliver antibiotics, growth factors, and pain medication if needed by monitoring the pH and temperature of the wound.
- Over 110 Patient Advocacy and Health Care Organizations have issued a [joint statement regarding the confidentiality of substance use disorder \(SUD\) patients](#) in reaction to the Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety Act (HR 6082), which passed the House on July 20th.
- [IBM’s Watson has reportedly provided physicians inaccurate cancer treatment advise](#); blame is being placed on IBM engineers and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center for training Watson on only a few hypothetical cancer cases (not real patient data) and recommendations from just a few specialists.
- ProPublica and NPR recently published an article outlining [how health insurers reportedly are using data brokers to gather tremendous amounts of data to predict patients’ future health risks scores](#), which could lead to bias and increase inequality.
- [GlaxoSmithKline has announced a \\$300 million equity investment in 23andMe](#) that will give Glaxo exclusive rights to develop drugs; 23andMe customers will be given the opportunity to consent to participate in the active drug discovery research.
- While the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA) exempts HIPAA and CMIA covered entities, [the CCPA is likely to apply to business associates and other entities such as pharma companies](#), clinical research orgs, biotechnology, wearables, health apps, genetic testing services, and much more; the CCPA is set to take effect on January 1, 2020.

International

- [Australia’s My Health Record initiative to create a national EHR record for all 24.7 million citizens has faced some backlash](#)—on the first day possible to opt-out, over 20,000 citizens attempted to opt-out; as people attempted to opt-out of My Health Record, many reported that records had been created for them without their consent, and some even contained incorrect information. Other issues that have been highlight with My Health Record include data retention, consent withdrawal, discrimination, third party access, and law enforcement access.

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