

Electronic Information Standards to Support Obesity Prevention and Bridge Services Across Systems, 2010–2015

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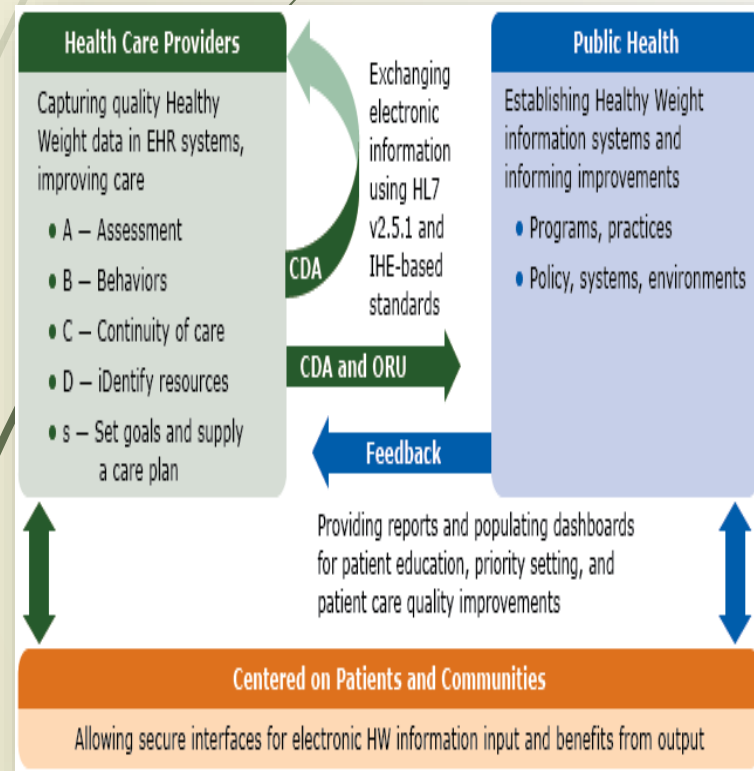
Abstract :

Electronic information technology standards facilitate high-quality, uniform collection of data for improved delivery and measurement of health care services. Electronic information standards also aid information exchange between secure systems that link health care and public health for better coordination of patient care and better-informed population health improvement activities. We developed international data standards for healthy weight that provide common definitions for electronic information technology..

Background :

The overall age-adjusted prevalence of obesity among US adults aged 20 years or older in 2013–2014 was approximately 38% obesity’s effects on health, including its contributions to chronic disease and disability, underscore the need to strengthen prevention efforts in the United States. Best practices for preventing and managing obesity include providing care per the Chronic Care Model, empowering patients for self-management and bridging primary care activities and public health efforts. EHI consists of electronic health records (EHRs), personal health records, personal wellness devices, health information exchanges, registries, and population health databases, all of which can support health systems, patients, communities, and public health practitioners in achieving individual health and population health. The collection of weight-related data and the development of specialized registries are priorities in policies and initiatives that can be applied to promote healthy behaviors and prevent diseases such as obesity, heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes.[1]

Problem statement :



Needs and Priorities Identified	Development and Harmonization of Standards	Testing and Demonstrations	Deployment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinicians identified the need for improvements in obesity-related data in EHRs Health departments communicated the need for electronic information standards and timely surveillance Healthy Weight informatics prioritized in policies and initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed screening standards, advanced standards, and 6 interoperability specifications Convened stakeholders and invited public comment Ongoing work to harmonize and maintain standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with health systems and engage vendors Build and test capacity of systems to capture, send, and accept data Demonstrate use-case scenarios 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot and disseminate
2010	2011–2012	2013	2014–2015
2016			

Figure 1. Process for creating Healthy Weight standards.

Motivation:

Describe the development of electronic information standards for weight measures across EHI systems.

Aims of objective:

Our objective was to develop healthy weight standards that can be used in the United States and globally to support the collection of uniform, high-quality data to improve the delivery of health care and the exchange of information to benefit patients, clinicians, health systems, and communities. These newly developed standards were named Healthy Weight standards.[2]



Conclusions:

Healthy weight is a priority health concern among patients, health care providers, and communities, and addressing its magnitude calls for coordinated prevention and management efforts. Now that the Healthy Weight standards have been developed, aligned, and tested, they are ready for use. Collaborative multi-stakeholder activities that use health IT and leverage standards across systems have the potential to improve information systems and accelerate positive outcomes.

Reference:

- [1] . Institute of Medicine. Accelerating progress in obesity prevention: solving the weight of the nation. Washington (DC): The National Academies Press; 2012.
- [2] . Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act. US health information technology rules and regulations — meaningful use. Fed Regist 2009;74(101):25550–2.