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Conference Abstract

Integral approach for the management of patients with multiple chronic conditions through an e-form on the electronic health record.

Montserrat Hernández-Pascual, Information Systems Director, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad, Gerencia de Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, Spain

Ana Isabel González-González, Technical Support Unit, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad, Gerencia de Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, Spain

Antonio Díaz-Holgado, Technical Support to the Information Systems Direction, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad, Gerencia de Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, Spain

Tamara Alonso-Safont, Technical Support Unit, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad, Gerencia de Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, Spain

José Luis Aréjula-Torres, Technical Support to the Information Systems Direction, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad, Gerencia de Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, Spain

Ana Miquel-Gómez, Coordinator of the Strategy for the Care of Patients with Chronic Diseases in Madrid Health Service, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad Manager, Gerencia Adjunta de Planificación y Calidad, Gerencia de Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, Spain

Correspondence to: **Ana Isabel González**, Gerencia Atención Primaria, Servicio Madrileño de Salud, REDISSEC, Spain, E-mail: aisabel.gonzalezg@salud.madrid.org

Abstract

Introduction: AP-Madrid is the new centralized single electronic health record system for primary care in the Community of Madrid. AP-Madrid contains e-forms which facilitate the entry of data into the patient record. They can be described as composite displays of one or more folders, with fields of various types (text, number, yes / no, date, image, etc...) where physicians and nurses can record patient clinical data. They contain information about anamnesis, examination, complementary tests, treatments and follow-up.

Addressing the chronic patient in the primary care setting is complex from the point of view of clinical care, because comorbidity is more and more frequent and because depending on the different chronic diseases that the patient has the assessment, examination, plan of action and follow-up may vary. Having multiple forms for every disease the patient may have could make the process of care quite difficult and may result in underreporting. Therefore, there was a need for the development of an e-form that could give response in a comprehensive manner to the monitoring of the most prevalent diseases in the primary care setting.

Short description of practice change implemented: A multidisciplinary working group was created:

1. To define the conditions that should be included in a single form;
2. To set all the activities that should be offered and therefore should appear in the form for its recording for each one of the diseases, the common activities for all conditions and the individual ones;
3. To create filters suggesting the clinician the realization of a specific clinical activity according to the disease/s;
4. To prepare the supporting documentation within the form accessible through links such as tests, validated scales, recommendations, etc.

Aim and theory of change: Development of an e-form for the management of chronic patients in primary care allowing the assessment and follow-up of the seven most prevalent diseases: diabetes, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, obesity, ischemic heart disease, chronic renal disease, heart failure.

Targeted population and stakeholders: The e-form allows the record of all the relevant clinical data necessary for the care of patients with diabetes, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, obesity, ischemic heart disease, chronic renal disease and/or heart failure.
3,525 General Practitioners and 3,280 nurses use this e-form on a daily basis.

Timeline: The e-form was implemented and began to be used by health professionals in primary care in March 2013.

Highlights: Having a single e-form for the management of the chronic patient facilitates the recording of all clinical relevant data for patients with multiple conditions.

The filters included, which suggest the activities to be performed according to the condition / s of the patient, improves and speeds the process of care.

The inclusion of supporting materials aids the process of decision making in the management of these patients and the continuity of care.

Having all the information in the same form facilitates the monitoring, improves healthcare quality and patient safety.

Comments on sustainability: The e-form for the management of patients with multiple conditions is not a static form as it is updated based on new scientific evidence.

Comments on transferability: All the information contained in the e-form helps the management of any patient with one or more of the conditions included and could be used elsewhere.

Discussions: An adequate use of the electronic health record using e-forms allows a better and safer management of the patient. All the information that is recorded using these e-forms can be automatically exploited allowing performance evaluation.

Lessons learned: The e-forms included in AP-Madrid facilitate the introduction of clinical information in the health record and also work as support systems for decision making and continuity of care. The creation of a single form for the management of chronic patients with multiple conditions eases the process of care and promotes de record of relevant clinical data improving continuity of care and guaranteeing patient safety.

Keywords

Comorbidity; computerized medical record; medical order entry systems

PowerPoint presentation

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