Improving Outcomes by Automating **Clinical Documentation** Workflows

> Sylvain Fournier, B.Sc.Inf. **EMR Manager, CHU Sainte-Justine**

## eHealth 2016 - Vancouver



Université m de Montréal **TRANSFORMER · INNOVER · HUMANISER** 









- 1. Learning objectives
- 2. Introduction to CHU Sainte-Justine
- 3. Our clinical information systems environment
- 4. Automating clinical workflows
- 5. Use Case: Respiratory Therapy
- 6. Outcomes
- 7. Challenges and lessons learned
- 8. Conclusion



## 1. Learning objectives

- 1. Describe current examples of how data is being used
- 2. Present challenges met and lessons learned at CHUSJ





## 2. Introduction to CHU Sainte-Justine



Our mission: Improve health of children, teenagers and mothers of Quebec

### Every year

3 500 births 10 000 surgeries 270 000 outpatient visits 83 000 emergency patients





## 2. Introduction to CHU Sainte-Justine

# CHU Sainte-Justine is one of the top ten mother-child hospital centres in the world, in the following fields:

Perinatal care Cardiac sciences Hematology-Immunology-Oncology Neurodevelopment Musculoskeletal diseases and movement sciences Health Promotion

#### **Excellence provided by:**

**550 doctors and pharmacists 1 500 nurses 1 100 health care professionals** 400 researchers and assistants 3 500 interns and students **450 volunteers** 







## 3. Our clinical information systems environment

- Repository for legal health record
- Ecosystem of 47 ancillary systems and specialised EMRs (PICU, ER, OR, Anaesthesia, etc.) 200 specialised applications producing reports (ECG, Ophthalmology, etc.)
- Over 1 400 standardised forms
- 300 decentralized clinical data bases of all types
- Regional EHR deployment 2009-2015 did not answer our specific needs
- Provincial EHR announced last fall
- Computerized workflows and eForms are developed using a Business Process Management application



## 4. Automating clinical workflows

- Improve clinical documentation by making information more complete, precise, readable and accessible
- Normalize documentation and streamline clinical workflows
- Integrate access to clinical documentation data for analytics, alerts, decision tools, dashboards, administrative and financial indicators, teaching, clinical and fundamental research, health promotion, etc.





## 4. Automating clinical workflows







## 5. Use Case: Respiratory Therapy

#### Purpose

- Capture discrete information in database
- Automate workload calculation
- Use treatment results data to improve decision making
- Alert Research coordinators
- Computerize protocols for discharge orders and teaching



## 5. Use Case: Respiratory Therapy

#### Approach

- Review patient evaluation and treatment workflow
- Analyse documentation process
- Computerize workflow map, documentation screens and eForms with granular data
- Develop architecture based on information blocks and structured tables reusable for all needs
- Deployment and evaluation



## 5. Use Case: Respiratory Therapy

Évaluation cardi	o-respiratoire spécifique
Date-heure d'évalua	tion <sup>10/15/2015</sup> <sup>12:02:15</sup> Courant PRAM RDAI
Vérification initiale	ID Patient       Ordonnance       Gaz sanguin vu       Poid (kg)       12.400       Taille (cm)       Indice de masse corporelle
RDAI O Premi	er 🔿 Deuxième 🖲 Aucun 🛛 Précédent PRAM o RDAI o Date-heure 08/06/2015 15:15:32
État général/ Éveil	Calme Dort Pleure Anxieux Agité Agressif Fatigué/épuisé   Irritable Inconfortable Non coopératif Autre
Coloration	Normale pour le patient       Pâle       Cyanose généralisée       Cyanose péribuccale       Cyanose périphérique         Marbré       Ictérique       Autre       Outre       Outre       Outre       Outre
Wheezing	-
Caractéristique de la respiration	Rythme régulier       Asymétrique       Hyperpnée       Dyspnée modérée         Rythme irrégulier       Amplitude normale       Essoufflement       Dyspnée Sévère         Symétrique       Amplitude superficielle       Dyspnée légère       Autre
Stridor	🗌 Aucun 🔄 À l'effort 🔄 Au repos
Temps expiratoire	- Contraction des muscles scalènes -
* Tirage	Battements   des ailes du nez     Sous-costal     Intercostal     Intercostal     Généralisé     Généralisé     Sous-costal     Sous-costal     Intercostal     Généralisé     Généralisé
Τουχ	Absente ++ Quinte Toussotement Grasse Productive







- 1. Discrete data available
- 2. Valuable metrics of time required to complete Respiratory Care procedures
- 3. Workload can be evaluated for scheduling, to produce stats, create reports, etc.
- 4. Important feedback for development team and software provider



## 6. Outcomes

- 5. Clinical decision support
- 6. Evidence based guidelines
- Alert system to proactively notify the hospital's 7. Research Coordinators of the arrival of patients that meet specific clinical research criteria
- 8. Automation of referral letters, discharge prescription, teaching or patient empowerment material like the "Action Plan for Asthma"









## 6. Outcomes

### **Satisfaction survey**

- Lead by the CHUSJ Health Technology Assessment Unit
- 3 months post implantation
- Target group: 40 Respiratory Therapists
- Response rate: 62.5% (n=25)
- 4 sections: general questions, training on information systems, questions on computerized RT workflow, open questions







## 6. Outcomes

### **1.** Global satisfaction:

- The tool does not meet expectations, does not answer Respiratory Therapists' specific needs
- Only 35 % Respiratory Therapists are globally satisfied with their computerized workflow
- 2. Improving clinical documentation:
  - 40 % perceived an improvement the quality of documentation
- 3. Streamline and automate clinical workflows:
  - Difficulty to compare last few patient evaluations
  - 72 % think it has worsen their clinical workflows
- 4. Data exploitability:
  - Need to develop a "user friendly" module to question DB instead of relying on IT to build queries



- 1. Necessity to perform a detailed analysis to truly understand the clinical and patient needs
- 2. Developer's understanding of the clinical workflow is critical
- 3. Application limitations and development tweaks can greatly impact modeled workflow
- 4. Continuous user feedback must be obtained during the development and deployment
- 5. Focus must be kept on the big picture to meet objectives



## 8. Conclusion

- Improved outcomes are not always visible to clinicians, making their buy-in more difficult
- User feedback at every step of development insures focus remains on their needs
- No matter how much time and effort you put in modeling the workflow, until it's been betatested, there is no knowing how it will pass the test.









**Sylvain Fournier EMR** manager

3175, Chemin de la Côte-Sainte-Catherine Montréal (Québec) H3T 1C5

sylvain.fournier.hsj@ssss.gouv.qc.ca





TRANSFORMER · INNOVER · HUMANISER

### **Contacts:**

### **CHU Sainte-Justine**

## chusj.org