

Overcoming Barriers to Interprofessional Collaboration with Information Technology to Create Better Interoperability and Quality in Care

Ms. Michelle Troseth, Chief Professional Practice Officer at Elsevier Clinical Solutions and recipient of the HIMSS14 Nursing Informatics Leadership Award shares her thoughts with HIMSS Asia Pacific.

Michelle, congratulations on receiving the HIMSS14 Nursing Informatics Leadership Award. As a nurse leader, what is a key barrier to interprofessional collaboration?

A major barrier to interprofessional collaboration is that clinical disciplines have traditionally been taught in silos. However, there is now international momentum in training physicians, nurses, and other disciplines together, and that will have a major impact in how we practice interprofessionally in the future.

A second barrier is that we do not often know each clinical discipline's full scope of practice. As a result, it is easy to make assumptions about what different disciplines actually do. Overcoming this barrier to interprofessional collaboration requires understanding the full professional role of each discipline.

How can ICT help achieve the interprofessional collaboration needed for better interoperability and quality in care?

The first way that ICT can help achieve interprofessional collaboration is if the systems are designed to support how clinicians plan, document and view their care. ICT will not be able to promote interprofessional collaboration if they are designed in silos.

It is also important to consider how ICT within the workflow supports the interprofessional contributions of peers. Paying attention to how nurses and therapists use technology, and ensuring that ICT is designed within their workflow, will make a big difference.

“Adhering to evidence-based practice guidelines in technology will also promote interprofessional collaboration. In fact, ICT that is designed to integrate the latest evidence via guidelines to support interprofessional care planning decreases variances of care and improves quality.”

There is a lot of buzz about technologies for nurses. From drones to biometrics and EHR, what are some of the trends for Nursing Informatics in the coming year, and how will these technologies help improve the patient health journey?

One of the trends that is happening through the [HIMSS TIGER Committee](#) is the improvement of nursing informatics competencies globally. There is a lot of competency sharing amongst countries that enables us to advance nurses' skills when it comes to technology and informatics.

There is also a lot more intention around big data. It is becoming very apparent that what goes into computers and into mobile devices is going to advance care and practice. Nurses are becoming more aware of having documentation coded to standard terminologies, and having consistency in how they are documenting care, so that big data can be leveraged to further inform practice.

Another emerging trend is patient engagement, in particular, having nurses use technology to engage with patients. Nurses will play a major role in the movement of healthcare consumerism, where patients are becoming more accountable for their care. Nurses will be on the frontlines of educating patients on how to use technology for their healthcare.

This year, HIMSS and Elsevier are bringing two award categories to Thailand: The ICT Achievement and ICT Innovation. In your opinion, what key ingredients determine ICT success and innovation?

A critical factor for ICT success is how well a technology is designed to meet the usability needs of clinicians. We are learning more and more how important it is for tools to be simple for clinicians to use. They have very busy schedules, so technology should never cause them to have barriers, but be leveraged to in a way that truly supports their workflow.

Success and innovation in ICT happens when systems are designed to leverage the best of technology, while also being representative of the best of practice, including interprofessional collaboration, evidence-based practice and adaptation into the work culture.



What can participants expect from this year's HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award?

Some great examples of how organizations are leveraging their existing technology systems to further advance care with things such as decision support, medication management, and telehealth. I was impressed by the several large scale implementations of electronic medical records that have occurred and organizations seizing the opportunity to innovate to meet specific patient and/or organizational needs. I think it will be a wonderful event to celebrate progress in healthcare!

Ms. Michelle Troseth is one of five judges for the HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award at HIMSS AsiaPac16.

HIMSS Asia Pacific | DIGITAL HEALTHCARE
ELSEVIER | AWARD 2016

The HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award is a global platform to recognize outstanding achievements and innovations in the usage of health information and technology, to advance patient care and safety.

Established in 2013, it is held annually across Asia Pacific, the Middle East and Europe.

The 4th Annual HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award Reception Dinner in Asia Pacific will be held on 23 August 2016 (Tuesday) at Grande Centre Point Terminal 21, Bangkok, Thailand.

For more information on this special event, click [here](#).