The Benefit and Burden of Electronic Reminders for Optimizing Patient Care

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Health IT has the potential to revolutionize patient care by presenting useful information to providers, but given cognitive limitations, providers may be overburdened by too much information. Although this tradeoff has been noted by many commentators and is well-known to practicing physicians, little is known about the clinical impact of potential distraction from health IT. This study evaluates natural experiments in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) in the number of electronic reminders across time and across clinics. It finds that increases in responses to non-diabetic electronic reminders from bottom to top quartile are associated with a 0.15% increase in hemoglobin A1c. Using detailed patient characteristics in the VHA electronic health record, we show that the number of non-diabetic electronic reminders is unrelated to unpredictable shocks in hemoglobin A1c prior to the visit. Future directions for research will be described.

Friday, October 16, 2015
Helen Wood Hall Auditorium 1.304
12:00p – 1:00p

Assorted wraps will be available while supplies last. Bring your own beverage.

ASL interpreters or other accommodations are available upon request.
Contact Jennifer VanRy @ 224-3050 with requests and/or questions

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