Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Roadmap Builder

Background: Approximately 10,400 children under the age of 15 are diagnosed with cancer every year. Although the overall survival rate has increased dramatically over the last 50 years, the survival rate for rare cancers has remained steady. In order to efficiently combat childhood cancer, the Children’s Oncology Group (COG) created 48 oncology care protocols which are used at pediatric care centers in the US. The treatment roadmaps are able to tailor the treatment strategy for each child by taking numerous factors into account including age, body mass, cancer type, and stage of cancer. While useful in clinical practice, the roadmaps are traditionally in paper format which increases the difficulty of tracking the documents and quickly sharing them between physicians and inpatient and outpatient facilities.

Technology Description: The Department of Pediatrics Computing Facility from the Washington University School of Medicine recognized the shortcomings of paper records for treatment roadmaps and developed and deployed the Pediatric Oncology Roadmap Builder. This technology allows seamless creation and sharing of Electronic Medical Record (EMR) treatment roadmaps based on the protocols developed by the COG. The digital roadmap is continuously updated with the latest development in treatments and patient response to the treatment plan. This allows for faster treatment plan adjustments which will lead to improved patient outcomes.

Key Advantages:

• Reduces reliance on paper records
• Incorporates the latest treatment strategies
• Electronic records are accessible at all times
• Enables multiple physicians access to view and, if allowed, change the treatment plan
• Integration into existing inpatient and outpatient processes
• Compatible with existing Electronic Medical Records (EMR’s)
• Can be modified for adult and veterinarian oncology roadmaps

Publications:
1) Rich E.S. et al.: Roadmaps in the Era of Electronic Medical Records

Lead Inventor: E. Scott Rich, Washington University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics

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