

A large, stylized orange chevron graphic pointing to the right, serving as a background for the text.

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Accenture at HIMSS14: The Future of EMR and Clinical Insights

Video Transcript

Kaveh Safavi: So there are three reasons why there's a benefit to taking a paper record and digitizing it. The first is for the doctor's own purposes. They can see all the information. It's easy for them to have access to historical information. It's easy for them to share it with other doctors.

The second is that you can actually look across many patients and see patterns that you could normally not see. This is important both for understanding public health, it's important for medical research and the true evolution of big data is the ability to take clinical data and intersect it with information from other places in order to gain new insights.

So for example, some investigators have discovered that one of the strongest predictors of whether or not a patient is readmitted to the hospital is not why they were admitted to the hospital medically, it's whether or not they moved recently because that actually predicts the level of stability in their home environment, which goes to whether they're going to get a

follow-up visit or whether they're going to take their medications. At the end of the day, what we really want to do is understand the patient as a person so the ability to pull records together is important, but it then just begs the question, that plus what other kinds of information to really get insights. So you're beginning to see a number of companies start to ask that question systematically. How do we take the information? How do we take both the text and the unstructured information, put it into a place where we can use it, where it speaks to each other and then how do we combine it with other information in order to get real insights?