

The Communications and Change Leadership Playbook for Implementing Electronic Health Records

Electronic health records (EHRs) are essential for improving the quality, safety, and efficiency of healthcare. However, implementing an EHR can be a complex and challenging process. Effective communication and change leadership are critical to the success of any EHR implementation.

This playbook provides a comprehensive guide to leading and communicating effectively during an EHR implementation. It covers everything from developing a communications plan to engaging stakeholders, managing expectations, overcoming resistance, and driving adoption.

The first step in any successful EHR implementation is to develop a strong communications plan. This plan should outline your goals, objectives, and strategies for communicating with stakeholders throughout the implementation process.



Transformation and Your New EHR: The Communications and Change Leadership Playbook for Implementing Electronic Health Records (HIMSS Book)

by Adrian Pyne

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 4618 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 180 pages



Your communications plan should include the following elements:

- **Goals and objectives:** What do you want to achieve with your communications? What are your key messages?
- **Target audiences:** Who are you trying to reach with your communications? What are their needs and interests?
- **Communication channels:** How will you reach your target audiences? What channels are most effective for each group?
- **Messaging:** What messages do you want to communicate to each target audience? How will you frame your messages to resonate with them?
- **Timeline:** When will you communicate with each target audience? How often will you communicate?
- **Budget:** How much money will you need to implement your communications plan?

Once you have developed a communications plan, it is important to stick to it. Consistent communication is key to keeping stakeholders informed and engaged throughout the implementation process.

One of the most important aspects of EHR implementation is engaging stakeholders and managing their expectations. Stakeholders include everyone who will be affected by the implementation, such as clinicians, staff, patients, and families.

It is important to involve stakeholders in the planning and implementation process from the very beginning. This will help them to understand the benefits of the EHR and to feel invested in its success.

It is also important to manage stakeholders' expectations throughout the implementation process. Be realistic about the challenges and timelines involved. Keep stakeholders informed of progress and setbacks. And be responsive to their concerns.

Resistance to change is a common challenge during EHR implementations. Some stakeholders may be resistant to change for a variety of reasons, such as fear of the unknown, concerns about privacy and security, or a lack of understanding of the benefits of the EHR.

It is important to address resistance early on. Identify the sources of resistance and develop strategies to overcome them. This may involve providing education and training, addressing concerns, and involving stakeholders in the decision-making process.

It is also important to drive adoption of the EHR once it is implemented. This can be done by providing ongoing support and training, recognizing and rewarding early adopters, and celebrating successes.

It is important to measure and evaluate the results of your EHR implementation. This will help you to track progress, identify areas for improvement, and demonstrate the value of the EHR to stakeholders.

There are a number of ways to measure and evaluate the results of an EHR implementation. Some common metrics include:

- **Adoption rates:** How many clinicians and staff are using the EHR?
- **Clinical outcomes:** Have there been any improvements in clinical outcomes since the EHR was implemented?
- **Patient satisfaction:** Are patients satisfied with the EHR?
- **Financial performance:** Has the EHR had a positive impact on the financial performance of the organization?

By measuring and evaluating your results, you can ensure that your EHR implementation is successful and that you are achieving your desired outcomes.

EHR implementations can be complex and challenging, but they are essential for improving the quality, safety, and efficiency of healthcare. Effective communication and change leadership are critical to the success of any EHR implementation.

This playbook has provided you with a comprehensive guide to leading and communicating effectively during an EHR implementation. By following the advice in this playbook, you can increase your chances of success and achieve your desired outcomes.



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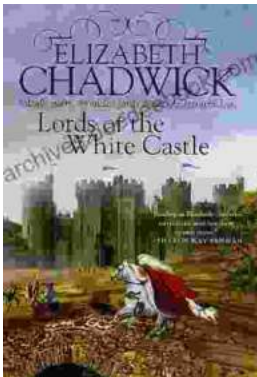
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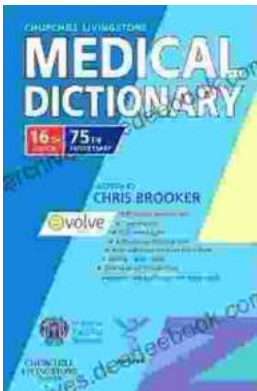
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