

E-Health Strategies

It is widely recognized that the healthcare industry does not use information technology to its full potential. This minitrack explores many of the reasons why large-scale implementation of healthcare information systems has not come to fruition yet. The authors provide a broad coverage of the field, ranging from strategic analysis to real-life project implementation. Moreover the minitrack provides strategies to avoid pitfalls and direct the healthcare organization to strategic use of healthcare information systems. The five main themes of the minitrack will show that the healthcare organizations are realistic laboratories for the information and communication technology scientists to do research. The five main themes are: Strategy, Network Organizations, Process Management, Knowledge Management and Standardization. Former contributions to this minitrack were bundled in the book "Strategies for healthcare information systems".

The three papers in this minitrack clearly address the themes. Reima Suomi and Jarmo Tähkäpää explore the strategic role of ICT in the competition between public and private health care sectors in the Nordic welfare societies explores Northern European healthcare and try to predict how the balance between private and public is going to change. Nilmini Wickramasinghe and Gail Mills contribute with the Kaiser case in which E-knowledge is used as a strategic imperative. Last but not least will Meg Murray introduce us in the web portals for healthcare with an investigation of requirements gathering for migrating to a web portal framework for the dissemination of health information within a Public Health Network.

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