Electronic Health Records and Electronic Health Archives: An archival examination of the ISO Health Informatics Standards

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Abstract: The International Organization on Standardization (ISO) has so far published ninety-three standards concerning health informatics via its ISO/TC 215 committee (Health informatics + scope="published" + document type="international standard" + language="English" + committee="ISO/TC 215"), along with thirty technical reports. Collectively, these standards and technical reports aim at facilitating “capture, interchange and use of health-related data, information, and knowledge to support and enable all aspects of the health system”. Not explicit in this aim, the topics of electronic health record (EHR) and eArchiving process are also addressed by the standards, which define EHR as “information relevant to the wellness, health and healthcare of an individual, in computer-processable form and represented according to a standardized information model” (ISO 18308:2011-Reviewed and Confirmed in 2017) Health informatics — Requirements for an electronic health record architecture) and eArchiving process as “holistic long-term preservation process covering the whole lifecycle of the electronic health record (EHR)” (ISO/TS 21547:2010-Reviewed and Confirmed in 2017 Health informatics — Security requirements for archiving of electronic health records — Principles). Questions arise regarding the management of EHR and the eArchiving process in terms of the similarities or differences between what is shaped by these standards and what is theorized and practiced in the records management field: do these standards reflect what is the focus of the records field or are there any concerns that are critical to the health industry but overlooked by the records field? This poster reports on the analysis that aimed to provide answers to these questions [244].

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