Dr. Daniella Zipkin: Electronic Health Records (EHR) and Evidence-Based Medicine

The Affordable Care Act, passed by Congress and signed into law in 2010, mandates the meaningful use of EHR by healthcare establishments, and according to a paper co-written by Dr. Daniella Zipkin, the practice of evidence-based medicine can assist providers in meeting the criteria for meaningful use. The criteria involve three important parts: utilizing EHR substantively, putting forth quality measures through EHR, and exchanging health-related data pursuant to improved care.

According to Dr. Zipkin’s review, evidence-based medicine can assist in improving care by linking evidence-based notes to a person’s diagnosis listed in EHR. These links can remind care providers of the benefits of certain up-to-date treatments, thus helping to bring practice more in line with current medical advances. The paper calls for more research into the efficacy of a strategy combining the power of evidence-based medicine with the flexibility of EHR.

Interested parties can read Daniella Zipkin's review under the title “Evidence-Based Medicine and Primary Care: Keeping Up is Hard to Do” in the latest issue of the Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine.