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Technological Factors Implementing Informatics Support Tools for RIOS Net,
An AHRQ Practice-Based Research Network
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Abstract

RIOS Net (Research Involving Outpatient Settings Network) is an AHRQ Practice-Based Research Network in New Mexico composed of clinicians practicing in Community Health Centers, Indian Health Service/Tribal facilities, and University of New Mexico academic settings.

Informatics Support Strategy

Previous RIOS Net projects have successfully used hand-held and web-access data collection technologies. However data from these projects was not stored in an easily reusable format. The UNM Health Sciences Center is creating a standardized term-based research data repository to support all RIOS Net research projects and future reuse/data-mining of the accumulated data. Because many of the network’s 200+ members are located in remote areas, access to the internet or even basic computer equipment is often limited. The investigators will evaluate the use of adaptive turn-a-round documents as a strategy for automating data collection in addition to a variety of other data collection technologies.

RIOS Net Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatricians</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internists</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family physicians</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse practitioners</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician assistant</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNM</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Health</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Informatics Goals

- Support and facilitate communication among RIOS Net members.
- Create a centralized, standardized term-based clinical data repository capable of supporting all RIOS Net clinical research projects.
- Completely configurable user access control to effectively manage compliance with all security and privacy regulations.
- Long term collection of data from multiple studies that can be potentially reused for future research.
- Create a suite of supported data collection tools easily configurable for specific practice-based research projects.
- Create a core IT group experienced with the suite of tools and data repository who will support and manage all the data gathering and storage needs of the clinical researchers.

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