Use of routinely collected electronic healthcare data – lessons learnt

ENCePP Plenary
25 November 2014

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Some things I know about collection of primary care data in the UK

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Agenda

→ History

→ Lessons learnt
History

- Early 1980s – Start of GP computerisation
- 1984 – Capoten PMS using teletext at Squibb
- 1987 – Launch of VAMP “no cost option scheme”
  - Collection of pseudonymised GP data for research
- 1993 – VAMP Research Bank moved to DoH & became GPRD (General Practice Research Database)
- 1994 – EPIC formed by Alan Dean (former founder of VAMP)
- 2002 – THIN established
- 2005 – EPIC became part of Cegedim which also owns INPS (formerly VAMP)

Summary – Same data, same aims, same people
YEARS

LESSONS LEARNED
• Data
• Infrastructure

Lessons Learned
Lessons Learnt about Data

✓ Quality - data provider motivation
✓ Format - flexibility
✓ Completeness - context sensitive
✓ Quality - subjective ie need to be able to describe:-
  • Completeness
  • Consistency
  • Accuracy/validity
Lessons Learnt about Infrastructure

✓ People/staff - focus on quality 1st and client expectation 2nd
✓ Programming/Code lists - multidisciplinary
✓ Testing - rigorous testing & QA
✓ Documentation - clear & detailed for transparency & reproducibility
✓ Confidentiality - vital but “identifiability” is not absolute, benefit/risk
“Quality is in the eye of the beholder”
Any questions?

Thank you

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