



Biomedical Informatics Grand Rounds



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Crossing the Chasms of Health Data in Pursuit of Clinically Actionable Knowledge

Wednesday, October 23, 2019 3 pm—4 pm
Health Science Center L2-3B

Abstract:

Data associated with health are nearly ubiquitously available and promises to be the substrate for augmented intelligence that impacts care. In envisioning a learning healthcare system, the United States has made significant investments in digital health, encouraging the availability of electronic health records and support for interoperability. This presentation will provide a perspective of the types of data that are available, their potential role in realizing the vision of a learning healthcare system, and underscore the challenges that remain in transforming health data into clinically actionable knowledge.

Bio:

Neil Sarkar, PhD, MLIS, FACMI is the Founding Director of the Brown Center for Biomedical Informatics, Associate Professor of Medical Science, and Associate Professor of Health Services, Policy & Practice at Brown University. He also currently serves as the Interim President and Chief Executive Officer for the Rhode Island Quality Institute, which serves as Rhode Island's Regional Health Information Organization. The underlying hypothesis in Dr. Sarkar's research is that the integration of unlinked data leads to new information that can be used to inform knowledge about underpinning phenomena in biology and health. Dr. Sarkar's work has been funded by sources such as the National Science Foundation, the Ellison Medical Foundation, the Medical Library Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the US Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institutes of Health. He is an elected Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics and is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Medical Informatics Association. In 2017, after serving on the leadership and editorial boards for a number of leading biomedical informatics journals, he was named the Founding Editor-and-Chief of JAMIA Open, a Gold Open Access journal. He has been an author on over 100 peer-reviewed articles, which span topics from comparative genomics using phylogenetic approaches to population-level trend detection and predictive modeling in clinical and public health contexts, as well as the editor of a textbook (Methods in Biomedical Informatics: A Pragmatic Approach).

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