April 2020

The MedBiquitous® Community Connection newsletter shares ongoing activities for community members and features updates, as well as a list of future engagements. For more information about MedBiquitous, please visit medbiq.org/about_us.

MedBiquitous Community Connection Webinar Series

June 9, 2020
11am-12pm (ET)

Register Today

June Webinar
Join us for the next installment of the MedBiquitous Community Connection webinar series on June 9, 2020, 11am-12pm (ET).

"The Road to MedBiquitous" includes a keynote presented by Marc Triola, MD, Associate Dean for Educational Informatics and Director, Institute for Innovations in Medical Education, NYU Langone Health, and an overview of the MedBiquitous Program by Johmarx Patton, MD, Director, Educational Technology and Standards, AAMC. More information can be found here. There is no cost to attend but registration is required.

April Webinar Now Available
The recording and presentation of the April webinar "Electronic Health Records: Clinical Decision Support Lessons Learned with Ebola and Zika for COVID-19" is now available here. Use your primary AAMC account information to access.

There were a few outstanding items from the webinar that have now been submitted by
MedBiquitous 2020: Annual Conference Canceled
After much discussion with AAMC leadership, and with consideration of current CDC social distancing guidelines, the difficult but necessary decision was made to cancel MedBiquitous 2020. The Information Technology in Academic Medicine Conference, sponsored by the Group on Information Resources (GIR), also scheduled for June in New York City is canceled as well. In the coming weeks we will explore options for sharing information and facilitating key conversations with the MedBiquitous community. Read more.

Request for Revisions to the Curriculum Inventory Standard
The MedBiquitous Program has received a request for revisions to the Curriculum Inventory Standard. We are currently offering a public comment period on this request. The public comment forum will be available April 29 to May 29 at this link.

MedBiquitous Wide World of Standards Quarterly Update
A few months ago, I started a monthly series called “Wide World of Standards” as a part of the blog and MedBiquitous Community Connection newsletter. There are a lot of good reasons to do this. The thing that struck me when I assumed the helm for MedBiquitous is that there is a lot more occurring in the world of data standards than most people can keep track of if it is not their primary role.

Sometimes I feel as if it is self-serving to say that people should care about data standards, but I have felt this way about the subject for several years now. I do not often tell this story but the reason that I started to work in educational technology is that I was aware of the systemic inability to utilize data from the learning context in the workplace. If I could help develop tools and techniques for improving patient care by enhancing the transition from education to healthcare that would be my dream job. While at the University of Michigan I began to pursue that dream by modernizing our learner portfolio and utilizing the MedBiquitous standards as a guide.

The ability to move data from one context to the next without having to create a new process for each transaction is a critical capability of our digital tools and platforms. To quote the T3 Innovation Network report titled Public-Private Standards Development and Use by Government For the Talent Marketplace, “Data standards make it easier to publish, share, and use data. They can boost data quality, open new markets, lead to the creation of innovative tools and services, lower costs for data production and use, support policy implementation, encourage collaboration, and more.”

While I participated in MedBiquitous for several years prior to becoming the program’s director, I was always surprised by the number of colleagues across the country that were only vaguely aware of the importance of the work being done by this program. In fact, they may be surprised to learn about all of the competing and complementary standards that exist in education and workforce data. I then asked myself: what can I do to help bridge this knowledge gap?

“Wide World of Standards” will continue to be a part of the monthly newsletter, and, in addition I will provide an expanded, quarterly summary for the MedBiquitous blog with what you need to know and where you can go to find more information.
This month’s summary highlights all the open data standards organizations that I have mentioned over previous months. I have organized them from the broadest, international applicability down to the most focused efforts.

For the full summary, please check out the MedBiquitous blog post!

Please stay safe and healthy.

Best regards,
Johmarx Patton, MD