

Alberta Health Services


Things I Wish I Knew *Before* I Became Senior Medical Director of Clinical Informatics in Alberta Health Services

e-Health 2014

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Leaders may have a different understanding of the role of IT in modern health care delivery than you do



Better ask the doctor. I'm just here to fix the computer!

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AHS Overview

- Largest Health Authority in Canada
- 96,000 employees
- 8,400 physicians
- Serving 4,000,000 Albertans
- >100 acute care facilities
- AB's population has grown faster than any other province every year for more than 10 years



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Early success is a terrible teacher*



*An Astronaut's guide to earth

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Goals worth striving for often take you out of your comfort zone

COMFORT ZONE

ME

GOAL

The diagram features a large cyan circle with a dashed border on the left side, labeled 'COMFORT ZONE'. Inside the circle is a red dot labeled 'ME'. To the right of the circle is an orange dot labeled 'GOAL'. The background is white with a green border on the right and bottom.

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Rogers' diffusion of innovations curve should have a corollary

Innovators

Early Adopters

Early Majority

Late Majority

Laggards

Armageddon*

Most People

Carl Dvorak, Epic

The slide shows a bell-shaped curve representing the diffusion of innovations. The curve is divided into six segments by vertical dashed lines. From left to right, the segments are: Innovators, Early Adopters, Early Majority, Late Majority, Laggards, and Armageddon*. Below the curve, a horizontal bar is shown, divided into a large cyan section labeled 'Most People' and a small red section. A red arrow points from the 'Armageddon*' label to the red section of the bar. The background is white with a green border on the right and bottom.

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Rogers' diffusion of innovations curve should have a corollary

Innovators

Early Adopters

Early Majority

Late Majority

Laggards

2.5%

13.5%

34%

34%

16%

The slide shows the same bell-shaped curve as the previous slide, but with percentages written below each segment. From left to right, the percentages are: 2.5% (Innovators), 13.5% (Early Adopters), 34% (Early Majority), 34% (Late Majority), and 16% (Laggards). The background is white with a green border on the right and bottom.

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Doctors really are special

MIDVALE SCHOOL FOR THE GIFTED

The slide features a cartoon illustration of a doctor in a white coat and stethoscope, leaning over a door. The door has a 'PULL' sign and is set in a brick wall. Below the door is a sign that reads 'MIDVALE SCHOOL FOR THE GIFTED'. The background is white with a green border on the right and bottom.

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Putting information into an EMR is a lot easier than getting it out




Figure 1. A "Fundamental Theorem" of informatics.

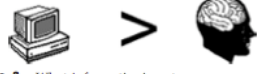
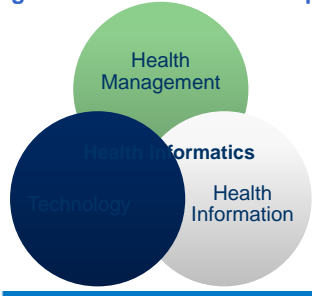


Figure 2. What informatics is not.

Friedman, A "Fundamental Theorem" of Biomedical Informatics. JAMA 2009

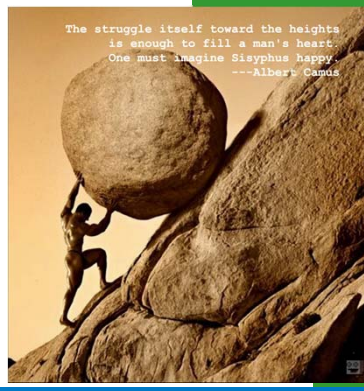
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Being a doctor is only peripherally related to taking on a medical IT leadership role



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Start with the end in mind



The struggle itself toward the heights is enough to fill a man's heart. One must imagine Sisyphus happy. --Albert Camus

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If you die tomorrow, you will be replaced...




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If you die tomorrow, you will be replaced...



...and you will never please everyone

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Questions?

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