Physicians' Attitude towards Electronic Medical Record Systems: An Input for Future Implementers

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Background: Electronic medical record (EMR) systems offer the potential to improve health care quality by allowing physicians real-time access to patient healthcare information. The endorsement and usage of EMRs by physicians have a significant influence on other user groups in the healthcare system. As a result, the purpose of this study was to examine physicians' attitudes regarding EMRs and identify the elements that may influence their attitudes.

Method: An institutional-based cross-sectional study design supplemented with a qualitative study was conducted from March 1 to April 30, 2018, among 403 physicians. A self-administered questionnaire was used to collect quantitative data. The validity of the prediction bounds for the dependent variable and the validity of the confidence intervals and *P* values for the parameters were measured with a value of less than 0.05 and 95 percent of confidence interval. For the supplementary qualitative study, data were collected using semi structured in-depth interviews from 11 key informants, and the data were analyzed using thematic analysis.

Result: Physicians' computer literacy (CI: 0.264, 0.713; *P*: 0001) and computer access at work (CI: 0.141, 0.533, *P*: 0.001) were shown to be favorable predictors of their attitude towards EMR system adoption. Another conclusion from this study was the inverse relationship between physicians' prior EMR experience and their attitude about the system (CI: -0.517, -0.121; *P*: 0.002).

Conclusion: According to the findings of this study, physicians' attitudes regarding EMR were found moderate in the studied region. There was a favorable relationship between computer ownership, computer literacy, lack of EMR experience, participation in EMR training, and attitude

towards EMR. Improving the aforementioned elements is critical to improving physicians' attitudes regarding EMR.

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