‘Publet’ technology for capturing and publishing medical knowledge

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The recent growth in the scientific understanding of diseases and their management has been unprecedented, but has not been matched by an equivalent ability to apply that knowledge in practice. It is now humanly impossible for unaided healthcare professionals to deliver patient care with the efficacy, consistency and safety that the full range of current knowledge could support. This is an issue that affects health service organisations worldwide and has been the motivation for our work on publets [1].

We define a publet as a computerised package of conventional knowledge sources (such as clinical guidelines and care pathways) integrated with point-of-care services to provide decision support, workflow and resource management, service monitoring, risk assessment and the like. In this talk we provide a progress report on publet technology, including a demonstration of the ‘Tallis’ authoring and publishing system [2] currently under development at Cancer Research UK.

The talk will also outline and discuss the goals of a project recently set up to investigate the collaborative preparation and publishing of open source guidelines using Tallis technology. This project is being sponsored by OpenClinical1 [3], an international organisation created to promote use of decision support, clinical workflow and other advanced knowledge management technologies for patient care and clinical research.

References


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