

Special Issue Editorial: Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN)

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The Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) was created by the World Health Organization to promote knowledge exchange and resource sharing on health information systems and eHealth among countries in Asia. AeHIN maintains that better health can be achieved by strengthening evidence-based policies and health systems through better quality and timely health information systems and civil registration and vital statistics. AeHIN further asserts the role of ICT for health as an enabler to improve the flow of information, through electronic means, to support the delivery of quality and equitable healthcare services and management of health systems.

The JTMI Special Issue on AeHIN invites researchers and practitioners to share their experiences with their national-scale eHealth strategies and implementations. The goal is to consolidate the knowledge base and enable the discourse necessary for effective regional health systems.

The topics of interest for the special issue include (but are not limited to): eHealth Governance, eHealth Architecture, Standards & Interoperability for Health, eHealth Policies and Strategies, Health Systems & eHealth, Ethical, Legal, and Social Aspects of eHealth, eHealth Workforce, and Experience & Lessons Learned from National eHealth Projects.

This special issue on Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) contains five papers that show how ICT for health has been developed and implemented. The AeHIN position paper by Alvin Marcelo and Boonchai Kijsanayotin, Chair and Co-Chair of

AeHIN presents the Asia eHealth Information Network's (AeHIN) response to the MA4Health 5-point call-to-action. The call was released in Washington DC June 8th and the response was circulated for comments in Manila, Colombo, and Yogyakarta until finalized in Bali last October 29th, 2015.

The paper by Jayawardena and Rathnayake presents a cross sectional descriptive study on Computer literacy among health care workers in District Base Hospitals in Kalutara District. This study shows that more than two third of MOs, Paramedics and Nurses were computer literate. Less than one third of Attendants were computer literate. Majority of them have a positive attitude towards use of computers at their work place. However, the use of ICT was low. This emphasizes the need for computer knowledge development among healthcare staff in order to have a well-functioning e-hospital.¹

Rajesh Kumar Sinha and RenuElza Varghese survey and report on Perception of Health Care Professionals towards mHealth Application. This study concludes that many professionals are using smart phones and perceived that mHealth applications can support them in patient care, research, education and promoting the best practices in the healthcare industry.²

The paper by Maruf Haque Khan et al. presents User's acceptance to the adoption of Health Information Technology (HIT) in Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University: Premier Medical University in Bangladesh. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) is the prime medical university

in Bangladesh. To improve the quality of services, BSMMU plans to implement health information technology (HIT); which is the most vital component of the revolution in the University.³

Ingun et al. describes and discusses integrated processes and experiences in implementing the National AIDS Program (NAP) application from our experiences at the National Health Security Office (NHSO) since the Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) was introduced to benefit package of the universal coverage scheme (UCS) in 2005. The second paper discusses Thailand health information system improvement through universal health coverage implementation.^{4,5}

5. Ingun P, Narkpaichit C, Boongerd P. Thailand health information system improvement through universal health coverage implementation. *J Thai Med Inform Assoc.* 2558;1(2):137-147.

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