CLOUD-BASED WEB APPLICATION TO REDUCE DELAY IN CANCER TREATMENT

Introduction/Background Gynaecological oncology departments host sophisticated clinical pathways that help guide ovarian cancer patients through their individual and tailored treatment plans. Departments within the UK’s National Health Service (NHS) have long endured using an in-house built spreadsheet to manage these complex ovarian cancer pathways. This ill-fitting system cannot effectively manage the intricate details nor enforce compliance with pathway policies; resulting in an unmanageable solution that impacts patients’ care and prognoses by causing significant increase in initial treatment wait-time, with examples exceeding a 160% increase from target.

Methodology To begin countering this widespread issue, users were interviewed to gain a deeper understanding of the complex clinical pathways. These requirement-gathering sessions were later leveraged to design a secure, scalable, and purpose-built cloud-based web application to rectify this issue. The User Experience (UX) design process involved requirement elicitation to create several use-cases and wireframes, leading towards a high-fidelity prototype using Amazon Web Services (AWS).

Results The result of this project is a feature-rich prototype that automatically enforces pathway compliance, and provides real-time notifications and data insights, while promptly disseminating patient communication. The product leverages several cloud services, maintaining a low-cost and high-availability architecture; and has subsequently been embraced as a catalyst and foundation of future work by NHS expert users.

Conclusion This implementation is set to guide and influence a software development company to create a production-ready product, aiming to reduce the wait times that ovarian cancer patients experience, while also reducing the administrative workload of clinicians; providing a greater ability to focus on the things that matter most.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT AS PART OF THE QUALITY ASSURANCE OF A REGIONAL GYNECOLOGICAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CARE NETWORK IN THE NETHERLANDS

Introduction/Background Given the increasing complexity and the volume standards which have become standard practise patients are more frequently treated in so called cancer networks in which different hospitals collaborate intensively. However instruments available for quality assurance are validated for individual hospitals. In the gynaecological cancer network established in our Regional Cancer Network (RO West which consists of 7 hospitals in the Leiden-The Hague area in the Netherlands) we aim to establish network wide quality assurance and consequently adopt well known instruments for usage in networks. In this abstract we report on the quality assessment of the cancer care pathway for ovarian cancer patients in our gynaecological cancer care network.

Methodology Indicators with regard to quality of care in cancer networks were extracted from the national Clinical Cancer Network Guidance Book and the national SONCOS standards for oncology and aligned with global Qmentum standards. 5 different fields were covered by 32 standards (organisation/