

Healthcare Mobility

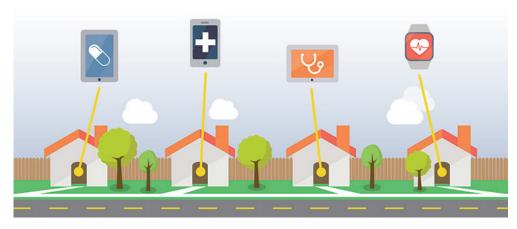
Taking care back to the community

Healthcare systems around the world are under pressure to improve services, while reducing costs — doing more with less. Mobile technology and the Internet of Things (IoT) shows the potential to fast-track healthcare within the community and focus on prevention as opposed to treatment. However, the billions of devices emerging due to the IoT will introduce many new risks, security and privacy being the most significant. Hospitals and community health organizations need to mitigate these risks, to secure and manage all of these new devices, endpoints and solutions in today's rapidly evolving landscape.

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Healthcare is moving back to the community



The US projects a shortfall of 65,000 primary care physicians through 2025.

Source: AAMC, March 2015

Healthcare systems around the world are under many stresses - waning staff resources, waxing population pressure, and new technology trends are perhaps the most significant. How are national and private healthcare systems dealing with these stresses and why is there a renewed focus on community-based healthcare?

To compensate, healthcare systems are renewing their focus on enabling healthcare in the community – emphasizing prevention instead of diagnosis and treatment. The rapid growth of technology is another reason for the growth of healthcare moving back into the community. Technology breaks down the walls of the hospital and extends the reach of healthcare professionals into the community and patient homes making it convenient, affordable and accessible.

Where have all the family doctors gone?

Over the last 30 years, many countries and regions around the world have seen a decrease in the availability of family doctors. There are many reasons behind this trend; the most common being the doctor's desire for better quality of life. Medical school graduates are choosing medical and surgical specialties over family medicine because of the higher salaries and lower amounts of administrative work. This is a significant issue in the US where the average medical school debt at graduation is over \$150k. Medical students are choosing higher paid specialties to maximize their income and repay their debts faster.

At the same time, challenges associated with remoteness, subpar infrastructure and poor working conditions are driving family doctors to setup practices in urban centers as opposed to rural locations. This trend magnifies the shortage of family doctors in the rural areas, increasing the doctor/patient ratio and making it an even harder choice for new doctors. For example, in urban India the patient to doctor ratio is close to the World Health Organization (WHO) standard, but rurally, it is more than four times as high. Unfortunately, unless new policies are enacted to make practicing family medicine more lucrative, or to increase government investment in rural healthcare infrastructure, the shortfall of primary care doctors is going to continue. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), the US can expect a shortfall of 65,000 primary care physicians through 2025 and this shortage is not limited to physicians — nurses, physician assistants and other allied health professionals will be in short supply over the next ten years.



The United Nations estimates that by 2050 more than 1 in 5 persons (1 in 3 in more developed regions) throughout the world will be aged 60 and over.

Global population trends impact healthcare

At the same time that availability of primary care doctors is shrinking, demand for their services is growing. The global population is estimated to reach 8 billion soon after 2020, and an growing number of them will be elderly. Increased life expectancy and decreased birth rates are resulting in an older global population. Data from the United Nations estimates that by 2050 more than 1 in 5 persons (1 in 3 in more developed regions) throughout the world will be aged 60 and over.

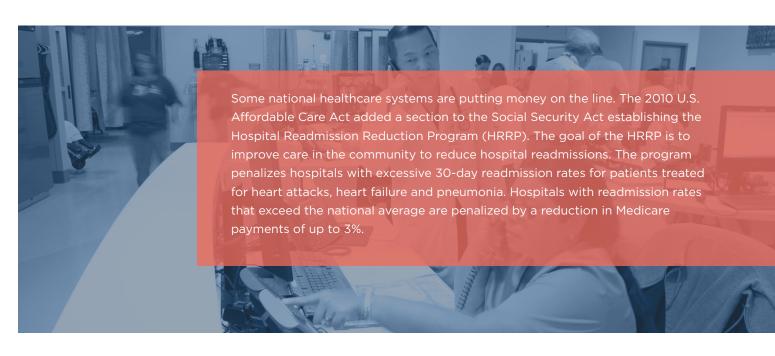
Age in itself is not a problem, but with advanced age comes an increased likelihood of chronic disease and disability. People aged 65 and older are two to three times as likely to suffer from chronic disease, such as high blood pressure, arthritis, diabetes, osteoporosis, and heart disease. Some of these diseases require constant management to maintain an adequate quality of life.

Community healthcare benefits everyone

Community based healthcare has many benefits over hospital-centric acute care. That is not to suggest that secondary and tertiary care are not required or effective, they are vital elements of the continuum of care. However, community based primary care is more efficient and effective. Community care promotes wellness and prevention, as opposed to treatment or surgery. Community based healthcare supports patients with chronic illness in their home and engages them in self-management and decision-making keeping them more involved and happier.

Studies have shown that countries and states that focus more on community-based primary care will see the following benefits.

Benefit	Example
Decreased costs	Medicare / NHS spending Inpatient reimbursements
Decreased resource inputs	Hospital / ICU beds, Capital equipment, Physician FTEs and allied health FTEs
Decreased utilization rates	Physician visits, Days in ICUs, Days in the hospital
Increased Quality of Care	Fewer ICU deaths, Reduced Hospital acquired infections Higher composite quality score
Increased patient satisfaction	Reduce readmission rates, Positive qualitative indexes and survey responses



61% of smartphone owners have downloaded a mobile health application.

Source: referral md



Making community based healthcare better

If the shortage of community based family doctors is here to stay, what can we do to shift the emphasis of healthcare from reactive to proactive, and make more efficient use of diminishing resources? We must facilitate primary care in the community and empower patients to participate in their own health and wellness at home.

Online resources

Increasingly, patients are consulting online health and wellness resources for medical information. Unfortunately, there are quite a few online sites that are not credible and may even be damaging to one's health. The next tier up is for patients to use self-service websites such as WebMD in the US and DrEd in the UK to research symptoms and ask healthcare questions from their home. Another possibility is asking friends and family for support, or joining online patient communities such as PatientsLikeMe to discuss their condition with patients sharing the same diagnosis. When asked, doctors recommend the websites of national healthcare organizations (i.e. NIH, NHS, and AIHW) as the most effective starting point for research.

Mobile health and wellness applications

Another significant trend is the rising popularity and utility of mobile health applications. According to Research2Guidance, there are almost 100,000 mobile health applications listed in app stores around the world generating more than 4 million free and 300,000 paid downloads every day. It is estimated that over 60% of smartphone owners have downloaded a mobile health application; mostly exercise and weight loss apps. Doctors think that mobile health apps can benefit patients in a couple of ways; they can increase the doctor's knowledge of the patient's general health and the can encourage patients to take responsibility for their own health and to reduce the number of visits to a doctor's office.



Worldwide revenue for telehealth devices and services is expected to grow ten-fold from 2013 to 2018, while the number of patients using telehealth services will increase by a factor of 20

Source: IHS - World Market for Telehealth, 2014



Home monitoring

Remote patient monitoring is an effective way to extend the reach of the hospital outside of its walls and to engage patients as partners in their own care. Empowering patients to manage their own chronic conditions such as diabetes or congestive heart failure outside of the hospital can reduce readmissions and costly major medical episodes. In addition, monitoring activity and other wellness contributors can help change patient behavior and proactively reduce medical needs.

Another use and benefit of remote monitoring is improving the quality of life for seniors living in their homes. Motion detectors or pendants with accelerometers for fall detection and movement tracking can monitor a senior's movement and generate an email or text message if there is an atypical, prolonged period of inactivity. The same device can include an emergency button that can alert a home monitoring service, family member or EMS.

Telehealth and more

Another way to extend the reach of the hospital into the community, or beyond, is the delivery of health related service via telecommunications technology. This is referred to as telehealth. Telehealth is comprised of many sub specialties, including:



Telemedicine

Offers clinical healthcare via telecommunications. This includes the transmission of patient medical records, diagnostic image data and real-time patient data. This also includes physicians using videoconferencing and augmented reality for real-time clinical consultations.



Teletriage

Is typically staffed by nurses and focused on remotely assessing a caller's condition and the severity of the issue. The goal is to help patients by answering their questions and to prevent unnecessary (and expensive) ER visits.



Allows patients to communicate with registered mental health professionals, e.g. psychiatrists, psychologists and nurse practitioners, for a variety of reasons, including; medication consultation and management as well as suicide prevention and

91% of adults have their mobile device within arms length 24/7.

Source: Midward-Brown, 2014

Mobile technology empowers healthcare in the community

Smartphones and tablets have become an integral part of peoples lives. According to a Midward-Brown study; across 30 countries, 91% of adults have their mobile device within arms length 24/7, and people spend an average of 147 minutes a day interacting with their mobile device. The growth of the Internet of Things (IoT) will see more devices and more types of devices and endpoints. In addition to smartphones and tablets there will be new "things" such as wearable monitors and sensors, digital scales and A/R headsets. How will all these mobile devices, wearable sensors and IoT endpoints contribute to community healthcare?

Smartphones and tablets as application platforms

In addition to mobile health and wellness applications for the patients, smartphones and tablets are excellent application platforms for medical applications. Every day physicians, nurses and other allied health professionals use mobile devices for email, voice and chat communications. They also search reference material and drug databases from anywhere, as well as access Healthcare Information Systems (HIS) to execute clinical workflows. Patients at home are able to use mobile devices running custom applications to interface with sensors, monitors and wearable endpoints. Mobile physicians, nurses and therapists take custom tablets into patient homes to update medical records, log therapy sessions, record patient progress and show educational videos.

Real Time Location Services (RTLS)

Locating and tracking people and things can be a valuable tool for community healthcare. Different technologies provide different types of location services. For example, GPS integrated into smartphones or dedicated, GPS-enabled tracking anklets/pendants deliver macro-location capabilities. At a lower level, such as within a house or facility, WiFi triangulation, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), and Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) deliver micro-location capabilities. Used together these technologies can locate people or things within 10M accuracy around the city, or within centimeters inside the home.

Macro Location Services

- Tracking people as they move around a town/city
- Establishing a geo-fence to trigger a warning if a patient strays outside of a defined boundary
- Providing healthcare professionals navigation and wayfinding to a defined address

Micro Location Services

- Tracking patients around their home and reporting unplanned inactivity
- Detecting patient proximity to important objects such as pill bottles, to trigger medication reminders
- Tracking and locating key fixed assets within a community care facility.

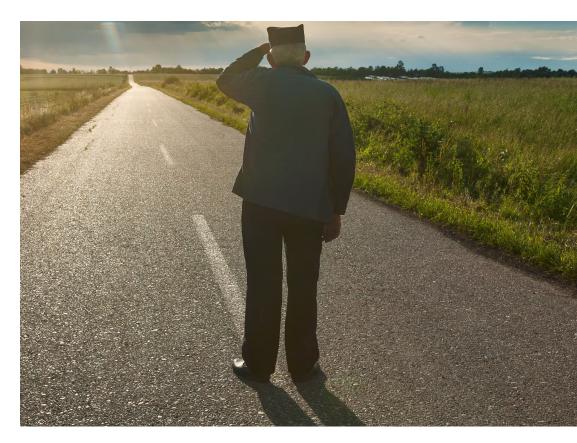
Wearable monitors and sensors

Portable monitors for healthcare are nothing new — portable ECG monitors have been available for almost 20 years. However, it is only within the last few years that advancements in miniaturization, connectivity and battery life have enabled truly innovative wireless ECG monitors that are more accurate than the previous, more invasive units.

It is important to distinguish between medical grade monitors and the new fitness wearables that have become popular in the last few years. These fitness devices are heart rate monitors only, and even then only provide around 80% of the accuracy of the approved ECG devices. This is an important distinction as the heart rate data collected by fitness peripherals has no real diagnostic value to a physician, except to establish baseline activity levels and habits. The next generations of these devices will begin to blur the boundaries between consumer-grade and medical-grade.

Online healthcare expert, Hospital and Health Networks, projects that there will be 80 million wearable health devices in use by the end of 2017. Some of these include:

- Home Sleep Apnea monitors measure and record heartrate, airflow, and blood oxygen, while also detecting head position, movement and snoring.
- Remote maternal and fetal heart rate monitors can upload data in real-time to fetal monitoring center and provides physicians with web portal access. This is great for high risk pregnancies in situations with maternal diabetes, kidney disease or high blood pressure.
- 3. Continuous glucometers with Bluetooth capabilities can display blood glucose levels for Type 1 Diabetes patients in real-time and allow transmission to medical professionals.



Within the next two years, there will be 80 million wearable health devices.

Source: Hospital and Health Networks, Jun 2015

Risks associated with mobile healthcare technology

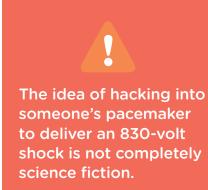
The rapid growth of the IoT in healthcare is not without its risks and challenges. With potentially tens of billions of IoT endpoints hitting the global healthcare market over the next five years, even the smallest risks become vitally important.

In October 2014, the US Food and Drug Administration issued guidelines detailing what security features companies should include when they are seeking FDA approval for a new IoT medical device. Unfortunately, in its current state, the FDA guidelines still optional and do not focus on the security of the device. They are primarily intended to ensure that the device has a clear clinical benefit.

Make sure only the right person can access and control a device

In the new world of the IoT, healthcare will see billions of new devices and endpoints containing a diverse range of features, connections, standards and protocols. Some of these devices may be simple and any associated risk is low, such as a digital thermometer. However, others will not be as benign. Modern pacemakers include a wireless capability that could render them "hackable." The idea of hacking into someone's pacemaker to deliver an 830-volt shock is not completely science fiction. This highlights a very important aspect of IoT endpoint security – device security – making sure that only the appropriate person can access and control a device. This will be a critical issue when distinguishing "medical-grade" IoT endpoints from simple, "consumer-grade" devices.







...there were over 250 significant healthcare breaches in 2015 with a combined loss of over 112 million patient records.

Source: Forbes, 2015

Keep patient information private and protected

Another critical area of security for IoT devices is keeping patient data and personal information private. In security terms, there are two issues at stake: data security – making sure that any data stored on the device is protected, and network security – making sure that any patient data transmitting to and from the device is encrypted. Whether it is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) in the USA or the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the EU, healthcare organizations are required by law to protect patient data. Data breaches can lead to government fines, litigation and bad press.

Adopt full lifecycle device management

In addition to security, there is another challenge arising from the rapid onset of the IoT - device and endpoint management. Companies may now be dealing with thousands or tens of thousands of IoT endpoints, with a diverse array of features and different methods to communicate. In response to this, it becomes more important than ever that you manage these endpoints throughout their entire lifecycle, from deployment to retirement. This includes all of the traditional elements of mobility management, including:

- Deployment, enrollment and provisioning
- Physical security and asset tracking
- Application and content management
- Device retirement



The future of healthcare requires unified endpoint management (UEM)

Industry analysts project healthcare to be one of the industries investing the most in the Internet of Things. The IoT has the potential to significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare inside the hospital and outside in the community. New devices and endpoints enable new types of medical applications and content, empower employees and streamline clinical and operational workflows. However, healthcare organizations must secure and manage the vast numbers of endpoints that they are deploying to keep patient data secure and private. Unified endpoint management (UEM) is mobility management for the IoT. But it goes beyond devices, applications and content to include people and processes. UEM manages the risks associated with the IoT, empowers workers and allows the company to transform their business while maintaining compliance and security.

Mobile Device Management (MDM)

MDM is the industry term used in the early days of mobility for the security and management of mobile devices, including; smartphones, tablets and ruggedized devices.

Enterprise Device Management (EMM)

EMM is the industry term for the management of mobile devices and their applications, content, and security. It goes beyond MDM by adding management for device ownership/deployment models, data at rest, data in transit and wireless network connections.

Unified Endpoint Management (UEM)

UEM is an evolution of EMM in response to the Internet of Things. A UEM solution enables enterprises to manage all business endpoints; from mobile devices and PCs, to IoT endpoints.

SOTI leads the way to UEM for healthcare

SOTI has been managing mobility for two decades. We managed dedicated-purpose mobile devices before smartphones were introduced, and now we are leading the way to UEM and making the IoT manageable. We have a proven track record of delivering powerful, easy-to-use mobility management solutions for healthcare. SOTI MobiControl does it all: endpoints, applications, content, email and security are all managed from a single, unified interface. No other mobility management vendor can come near SOTI's rich history of product innovation and customer satisfaction.

SOTI is a proven product innovator and EMM Industry leader. Over 16,000 customers across 170 countries rely on SOTI for their EMM needs. We empower the enterprise to take mobility to endless possibilities.