



Fondazione Bruno Kessler
Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento

2nd International workshop
“Personal Health Records and patient-oriented infrastructures”
Building technology, shaping (new) patients and healthcare professions

Trento, 19-20 June 2014

Deadline for short paper submission: March 2nd 2013

EXTENDED March 10th 2013

The healthcare systems of the Western countries are undergoing significant transformations due to the growing pressure of demographic and epidemiological changes. In a scenario characterized by the growth of the elderly population and the rise of chronic conditions, such systems are required to modify not only what they offer but also the very nature of their role. Originally constructed around the treatment of acute cases and long-term institutional care, healthcare systems are promoting new models of care based on prevention, briefer hospitalization, patient education and empowerment, and the self-management of chronic condition.

In this context, Personal Health Records (PHRs) and patient-oriented infrastructures are often regarded as tools with which to reshape healthcare systems. These technologies have rapidly come to be considered the cornerstones of new forms of patient-centred services redesigned around empowered citizens willing to commit themselves to a proactive style of health and wellness self-management. This has led to a flourishing of implemented systems designed by research institutions, healthcare authorities, and private vendors. Despite some significant failures (i.e. GoogleHealth, NHS MySpace), the trend does not seem set to change in the near future.

On closer inspection, however, the acronym PHR covers many diverse systems, designed with quite different ideas of what patients are or should be in mind. These technologies, in fact, are not neutral tools. Rather, they carry the imprints of the desires of the designers and stakeholders. They embody visions of healthcare services and expectations about each actor's behaviour. They are imbued with the ethics and morals of new forms of patienthood; and hardcoded in their features and limitations are the signs of the desired patient-doctor relationship and technologically-mediated therapeutic alliance. At the same time, and despite the intentions of their designers, these systems are reshaped through their use by patients as they learn how to take care of themselves, collect and manage health information, and engage in new forms of communication within their care networks. From this perspective, PHR and patient-oriented infrastructures provide researchers with significant standpoints from which to analyse new forms of patient empowerment and education, and the strengthening of traditional relationship with doctors, but also to study the creation of more composite care networks and, in more general terms, the transformations ongoing in healthcare systems.

We intend this workshop to offer an arena for discussion on these and related issues to researchers, healthcare and IT professionals, and healthcare managers. Topics of particular interest include, but are not limited to:

- representations of the patient's role and the patient-doctor relationship as inscribed in technological artefacts;
- the strengthening or redefinition of the patient-doctor relationship or healthcare practices brought about by the adoption of PHRs;
- the design process of Personal Health Records and patient-oriented infrastructures;
- the appropriation or unexpected uses of PHRs;
- new forms of technologically-mediated patient empowerment, education, and patient-doctor communication;
- the ethics of care and PHR
- conflict and mediation in regard to the use and limitation of PHR and patient-oriented infrastructures;
- PHRs and their role in regional-national healthcare infrastructural systems.

Accepted short papers will be included in the online and open access proceedings published by "[Sprouts: Working Papers on Information Systems](#)" indexed in Google Scholar and other directories.

The first edition of the workshops has resulted in a [special issue](#) of IT and People. The organizers and the program committee will seek to publish selected papers from the workshop in an edited book or a journal. More information will be published on the website or provided during the workshop.

Keynote Speakers

Liam J. Bannon, University of Limerick, Aarhus University
Wanda Pratt, University of Washington
Antoinette de Bont, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Organizers

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Important dates

Deadline for submission:	2 March 2014 10 March 2014
Notification of acceptance:	30 March 2014
Workshop:	19-20 June 2014

Paper submission

Papers (max. 4 pages) have to be formatted according to the template you can find here: <http://phrworkshop2014.fbk.eu/node/6>

Submit your paper here

<https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=phrworkshop2014>

Need more information?

Contact us phrworkshop2014@easychair.org

Visit our website <http://phrworkshop2014.fbk.eu/>