Person-centred and participatory medicine

IQ healthcare conference
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Participatory and patient-centred medicine

**Participatory Medicine:**

networked patients shift from being mere passengers to *responsible drivers of their health*, and in which providers encourage and value them as *full partners*”

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**Patient-centered medicine** “seeks to focus medical attention on the individual patient’s needs and concerns, rather than the doctor’s”


[Society of Participatory Medicine]
Patient-centred medicine 1.0

“The doctor in order to recognize the illness fully must first recognize the patient as a person”

Balint, M (1964). The Doctor, His Patient and the Illness]
Has “evidence-based” medicine lost the patient?

“Well intentioned efforts to automate use of evidence through computerised decision support systems, structured templates, and point of care prompts can crowd out the local, individualised, and patient initiated elements of the clinical consultation.”

ESF Forward Look

Personalised Medicine for the European Citizen
Towards more precise medicine for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease (iPM)

Toward Precision Medicine
Building a Knowledge Network for Biomedical Research and a New Taxonomy of Disease
GPs’ diagnostic skills could be obsolete within 20 years’ time, says Hunt

6 October 2015 | By Alex Matthews-King

“You can get 300,000 biomarkers from a single drop of blood, so why would you depend on a human brain to calculate what that means when a computer can do it for you?”

[Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt, quoting Technology developers in California]
Precision Medicine

How Apple Watch could predict heart attacks in the future

BY BUSTER HEIN • 11:00 AM, MAY 8, 2015
“Activated patients”

“Data may also need to be gathered from each individual over time, so the active participation of both patients and healthy individuals, including their families and communities, is crucial for efficient data collection and monitoring”


“I do not know of a health system in the world that will not need greater patient activation if it is to become – or remain – sustainable”

Four faces of empowerment

1. Individualistic empowerment

Closely linked to individual autonomy and choice

Four faces of empowerment

2. Instrumental empowerment

Patient empowerment serves another goal (e.g. improving health services)

[Del Savio et al. 2016. Opening the black box of participation in medicine and healthcare. ITA Working Paper.]
Four faces of empowerment

3. Democratic empowerment

Patient and consumer rights movements in the 1960s and 1970s, when discourse focused on collective action and not individual choice (e.g. Mold 2010; 2013)
Four faces of empowerment

3. Emancipatory empowerment

- Liberating people from oppressive structures
- Often outside of established institutions

What your patient is thinking

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Published 13 April 2016
What should we do?

• Bring the complexity of patient experience back into clinical decision making (e.g. “social biomarkers”)

• Changes in reimbursement will further enhance the role of patient-centred outcome measures (PROMs etc.)

• Patient participation must not be a mere tool to save costs

• Not underestimate the cost-saving effect of high-touch medicine

Prainsack B, Buyx A. Solidarity in Biomedicine and Beyond. Cambridge University Press, January 2017 ]
High tech & high touch:
Patient-centred medicine 2.0?

“It may that computers will soon diagnose better than doctors. But the facts fed to the computers will still have to be the result of intimate, individual recognition of the patient.”


Thank you very much for your attention

Comments are very welcome:
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