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# Health@Home: Personal Health Records in support of Home Care Nursing

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#### Challenges in Home Care

- 1. Geographic dispersion
- 2. Managing Medications
- 3. Monitoring Status
- 4. Making timely decision



## HeartCareII: CHF Home Nurses

- Medications
- Weight
- Diet, particularly salt intake
- CHF Symptoms
- Health Activity Prescription



The goal is that the patient becomes more and more able to make the right choices about taking meds independently, call MD, etc

It's not just having a record that can be reviewed during a visit...

It is about setting a patient up with the patterns of recognition, recording and communication about important health data

# How does patient self-report help home care?

- 1. Patient is actively engaged, mindful
- 2. Nurse is aware of between-visit status
- 3. All data must be interpreted and acted upon!
  - 1. Seeking normal
  - 2. Recognize departures from normal
  - 3. Responding to deviations

















Lay people develop robust, complex mechanisms of health information management in the home.









### Nurses' Issues

#### Nurses worry about:

- Having 30 or 40 phone calls to deal with a day
- Email overload
- Not all patients are accurate with self-report \*trust matters\*
- People who continue to have negative events despite known what to do

- Nurses don't worry about:
- Patients getting worried about the wrong things
- Patients knowing when to, and NOT TO, call -- after the second event!
- Patients' ignoring the Heart failure action plan sheets

What is the role of IT in the construction and use of PHRs?

## Thank you!

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