Queries from May 2020 COVID 19 Webcast
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1. <u>What impact should the importance of data, as shown in the survey results, have to curriculum competencies? Specifically should courses address analytics, informatics, population health?</u>
   The data about how COVID-19 has shaped the role of the HIM will change future HIM competencies for HIM, and in turn the curriculum and training, to ensure we are producing work ready graduates, who can work in the new post-COVID world.
   Whilst national bodies may elect to review existing competency frameworks, IFHIMA will in due course review the Global Health Workforce Curricula Competencies to identify where changes need to be made to meet current and future workforce demands.
   Additionally, IFHIMA will review our Learning Modules and determine if an additional module is relevant and needed pursuant to their goals and use. The Learning Modules are introductory education appropriate to low and middle income countries as they begin to address informal education and creating a workforce.

2. <u>How will the results be publicized and shared more globally?</u>
   The survey results were shared in the May 2020 webcast which is on the IFHIMA website. The results will also be shared in regional articles that will be made available on the IFHIMA website pursuant to any reprint permissions. Lastly, the IFHIMA LinkedIn group has conversations about the survey.

3. <u>How do we address privacy in a pandemic?</u>
   Nations should look to existing legislation, rules and regulations, and treat the safeguarding of information for pandemic related information as they

would all personal health information. Some parts of the world may enact specific reporting requirements, for tracing purposes etc., but only information required to perform newly created pandemic tasks or to support ongoing public health needs should be shared. All efforts should always be made to ensure any legislative reporting requirements at all times, ensures the privacy of the individual person involved.

While the impact of the pandemic has had a profound societal, cultural, health and economic impact, that does NOT mean privacy is any less important. Please read the IFHIMA privacy whitepaper for a broader privacy discussion.

4. Has HIT helped to limit the spread of COVID-19?
Since COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus, technology has not been able to limit the disease spread. However, technology has assisted in creating databases on those unfortunate individuals that have been affected, and assisted in tracing others that may have been exposed to the patient. So on the back end, I think we can say with some confidence that HIT has played an important role in gathering information that can be utilized to control further exposure, and therefore, limiting further spread, support care delivery and research.

5. What correlation can be drawn between the rapid deployment of telehealth in the midst of a pandemic to rolling out an EMR? Can we create a stronger argument for going to an EMR in organizations that are lagging for a variety of reasons?
 Whilst COVID-19 has highlighted the limitations and infection control issues with paper records, it has also highlighted the challenges with rapid adoption of technology, in terms of infrastructure and resources, cost, and workforce. COVID-19 has also highlighted the need for strong data governance to ensure accuracy, integrity, and standardization of health data. What COVID-19 has accelerated is the discussion about digital transformation.

We can only hope that those who were not convinced that EMR's are superior to paper records have been educated and are more accepting of the technology. Further, all have witnessed the benefits of having rapid and quick transmission and access to diagnostic and supporting clinical information – especially during a pandemic.

6. Will there be a second survey?
    The course and timeframe of the pandemic will determine if a second survey is appropriate, and when. We do not anticipate doing one any earlier than September 2020.

Resources:

IFHIMA COVID-19 webcast recording. https://ifhima.org/learning-center/

Global Health Workforce Curriculum. https://ifhima.org/global-health-information-curricula-competencies/

Learning Modules. https://ifhima.org/learning-center/

IFHIMA LinkedIn. https://www.linkedin.com/company/ifhima/?viewAsMember=true

Privacy Whitepaper. https://ifhima.org/sign-up-for-ifhima-global-news-whitepaper-and-events/