As consumerism catches up with healthcare the demand for best processes which are technology enabled becomes apparent. Within the last 50 years the biomedical industry has advanced far enough to improve the reliability of healthcare provision.

Information systems are making important contributions towards the creation of a safer industry through improving access to information, reducing reliance on memory, increasing vigilance, and contributing to standardization of processes

The need for information sharing between different healthcare entities is now critical. Data sharing can be a bottleneck, starting from issues with incompatible systems when getting the data from an external institution to unstructured data not being meaningfully used for population studies.

The need for interoperable systems is evident in every part of the healthcare ecosystem. A patient’s data, structured as well as residual, at different times is used and modified by physicians, hospitals, laboratories, insurers and researchers.

Interoperability requires the creation, acceptance, and implementation of clinical data standards to ensure that data in one part of the system is available and usable across a variety of clinical settings. A data standard depicts the required content and format in which particular types of data are to be presented and exchanged. These standards are merely rules which govern how patient information is sourced, electronically stored, mathematically processed and exchanged.

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