

Factors that Determine Patients' Engagement with the Electronic Medical Records

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Background

- Electronic medical records (EMR) can facilitate patient-centered care by allowing engagement of patients
- The goal of this study is to identify some factors that predict patients' engagement with the EMR

Method

- A cross-sectional study that used the Health Information and National Trend Survey (HINTS 5 Cycle 4)
- The study included all adults aged ≥ 18 years that visited a non-emergent healthcare provider in the past 12 months

Result

- There were 55,231, 330 weighted survey participants
- Bivariate analysis between independent variables and dependent variables (use of EMR in the past twelve months)
- Significant variables ($P < 0.05$) on bivariate analysis: Highest level of education, income, general health, health insurance, history of hypertension and use of electronic devices to search for health information

Variable	Adjusted Odds Ratio (95% Confidence Interval)	P-value
History of hypertension	2.00 (1.06-3.76)	$P < 0.0001$

- Only history of hypertension was significant when all significant variables on bivariate analysis were included in multivariable logistic regression

Conclusion

- Primary care physicians may leverage this information to optimize the engagement of this demographic with the EMR with a goal to help control hypertension and chronic conditions associated with it