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Unified Health Information Prescription System for Communicable Disease COVID19: Strategy to Deal with Infodemic

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ABSTRACT

At the same time with the outbreak of the Coronavirus it's essential to identify a suitable system to raise public awareness, attitudes, and performance against viruses. Unified health information prescription system is a key performance and valuable collection of health information obtained from documentary sources that is collected. The study aimed to provide proper strategy to deal with infodemic and promotion health information behaviors of patients.

INTRODUCTION

Novel Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease of the respiratory system caused by a coronavirus that is a relative of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) which is known as novel coronavirus 2019. Given the prevalence of the virus globally and the risk to public health, it is important to identify a suitable system to raise public awareness, attitudes, and performance against viruses [1, 2].

At the same time with the outbreak of the Coronavirus in December 2019, the information about it spread with incredible speed and much faster than the spread of the virus around the world. The speed was so high that World Health Organization (WHO) called the situation infodemic. Infodemic refers to a condition in which individuals produce and exchange information and news about a disease, and this is to the extent that the mass of correct and incorrect information complicates the solution of the disease problem [3]. In fact, in confronting with the coronavirus, the world is facing two critical situations: the coronavirus epidemic and the epidemic of scientific and quasi-scientific information, margins, and rumors about the coronavirus.

There is a risk of information infodemic during the COVID-19 outbreak, widespread misinformation about the virus, and falsification about the coronavirus. Infodemic is defined as the dissemination of a huge amount of information about an issue that in practice makes it difficult to solve the problem and causes mental and psychological disorders, fear, and panic in society [4]. Nowadays, the rapid dissemination of reliable information, including transparency in diagnosing cases, interaction and sound communication, and revised research is essential. There may be no way to "prevent" COVID-19, but validated and revised information is the most effective way to prevent "fear and panic" caused by the disease. Establishing a unified health information prescription system can be used as a practical strategy to prevent this situation.

In addition, users' information behaviors have changed due to technological changes, and on the other hand, the stress caused by infectious diseases has changed the information behaviors of users regarding health, so obtaining incorrect information can lead to more health risks. Differences in the level of users' health information also indicate a weakness in the ability to identify and detect correct and incorrect information in the global population due to a large amount of information in the face of coronavirus. A large amount of information through social media, cyberspaces, fake sites, and news sources with unsound health information is available for people that sometimes provide erroneous guidelines that can cause irreparable damages. A health information prescription based on individual needs and personal characteristics is a way to respond to behavioral changes and provide appropriate information for each person.

Health information centers, in cooperation with health centers and health services, have conducted appropriate measures in the past epidemic periods. During the COVID-19 outbreak, both CDC and WHO have published credible information about it. However, due to the lack of complete community awareness of these resources or information sites, as well as regional differences, the use of health information prescription system can be an appropriate performance to answer the numerous questions of users in this field.

THE NATURE OF THE INFORMATION PRESCRIPTION SYSTEM

The health information prescription system is a valuable collection of health information obtained from documentary sources that is collected, stored and distributed for the easier access of patients. This information is collected with the cooperation of different departments that provides the possibility of interaction between health specialists and patient as well as different members of the community [5]. The purpose of the information prescription system is to provide information and especially health information to individuals about various aspects of coronavirus to help them with health issues at different levels to make knowledgeable decisions

and have proper behaviors.

The health information system has different dimensions; the most important ones are the information preparation team in different languages, the information monitoring committee, the technical and communication infrastructure unit to select the best communication channel to send health information regarding COVID-19.

DETERMINING THE CONTENT OF HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19

Dimensions of health information content about COVID-19 should include documentary information from a well-distinguished source regarding virus identification, its introduction, and disease symptoms, identification of the routes of transmission and prevention, clinical dimensions of the disease such as laboratory results. It also includes individual activities, psychological and psychiatric issues, along with counseling and answering questions, categorization of information content based on the needs of job groups and business, and patient guidelines after discharge. In addition to cognition of information content, it is more important to form an information content team consisting of infectious disease specialists, physicians, health education and health promotion specialists, information technology experts, who will monitor the content of produced information as soon as possible. Any published information content about the COVID19 may be from an unreliable source and, in addition to causing personal injuries, impose a heavy economic burden on countries. Health information that is filtered through the health information prescription system can be a comprehensive effort to solve the problem.

INTEGRATION OF INFORMATION PRESCRIPTION SYSTEM WITH ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

The design and development of the Integrated Health Information System of COVID19 can be a viable solution to raise awareness and health care information about COVID19 in society. In addition, this system, alone or integrated with electronic health records of the patient, can provide appropriate information to the patient in an integrated manner according to the personal characteristics of patients with cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, etc. This system can be expanded nationally or internationally, but due to regional and national access to electronic health records systems, it is recommended that this system be implemented nationally and with the support of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, information preparation committee, and with the assistance of specialized scientific associations.

FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF SYSTEM AND THE USE OF APPROPRIATE INFORMATION MECHANISMS

It is necessary for information systems to have various functional capabilities such as validating the entry and exit of users at different times, personalizing the patient's profile, or disclosing it to

physicians for providing information. The system should pose interoperability of the prescribing information with other systems of the organization to exchange information by using authentic standards [6, 7].

The availability and usability of the IT program, improving information transmission mechanisms such as information forums and discussion groups, the use of imaging to remove language barriers can be considered as the most important requirements of the system.

Due to the development of various information tools in the system of prescribing integrated health information, appropriate tools can be used to improve the awareness, attitude, and performance of individuals in accordance with the different situations of people referring to the system. Various mechanisms of the telephone system for prescribing health information through telephone conversations, use of information platform, reputable websites without advertising, use of mobile-based applications, use of brochure information templates, videos, text, motion infographics, and a combination of them, can increase the effectiveness of information measures. These tools can be used as part of a health information prescription system to refer to in case of having a specific question about COVID 19.

Overall, by using the strategy of the Unified Health information prescription system for contagious COVID19, It is expected to provide a better interaction between patients and health care providers in managing and controlling the disease, helping to implement the Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control Program better, and ensuring consistent quality information. Subsequently, individuals can make a better decision, economic costs will reduce, access to health information will be accelerated, this help solving the problem of dealing with COVID19.

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