ICT for Health System Sustainability: Needs and Challenges

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Outline

- Introduction
- Methods
- Saudi Health Service
- ICT in Saudi Healthcare System
- Challenges
- Needs
- Sustainability Model
- Conclusion

Introduction

- Saudi Healthcare System
  - Grown organically but ready for a step change
- Factors peculiar to Saudi Arabia
  - Including free access to health system at point of care
- Expectation of Development
  - Saudi population expects a high standard health service

Methods

- Literature Review
  - From 1986 to date
- Document Analyses
  - From Ministry of Health; Ministry of Planning; and individual Hospitals
- Observation
  - Non-participative observation across 11 Hospitals in Riyadh
- Sustainability Model Components
  - People aspects and System aspects

Saudi Health Service

- Saudi Healthcare Service is planned to provide efficient health services for increasing population through utilisation of resources and more equity in service provision and distribution.
- Studies revealed a Health-Service-Gap in metropolitan and rural areas.

ICT in Saudi Healthcare System

- Healthcare System infrastructure
  - Poor national health system infrastructure
- Healthcare Technology
  - High Tech devices vs. Health Information Technologies
- Health Information System
  - Hospitals, Primary Care Clinics
- Electronic Health Records (EHR)
  - Integrates health and social need

Challenges

- Health Services Management
- Hospital Management and Operation
- Stakeholders' Development Role
- Health Information Policy
- Health Information System
- System and Human factors
- Implementation (Success and failure)

Needs

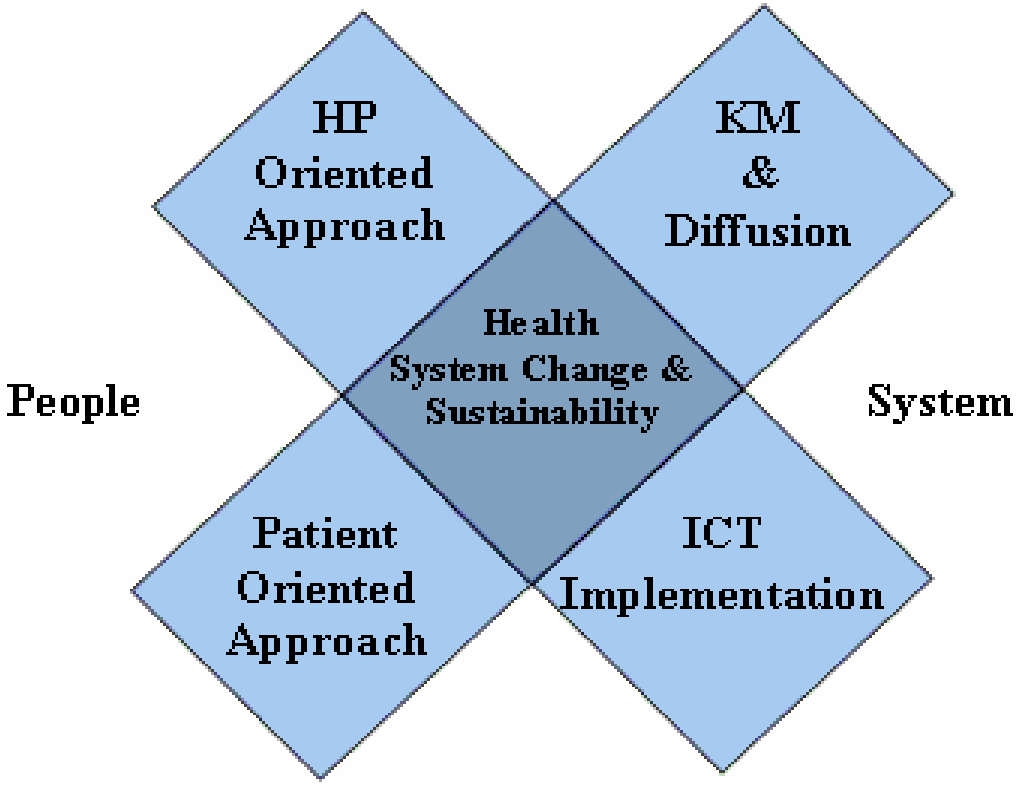
- Review of Administrative and Financial Systems
- National Information System Infrastructure
- National Health Information Policy
- Increase usage of Health Information Systems
- National Research Projects in HIS
- Holistic View of Approaches and Implementations

Sustainability Model (1of 2)

Sustainability Model Components

- Knowledge Management and Diffusion
- ICT Implementation
- Health Professional Oriented Approach
- Patient Oriented Approach

Sustainability Model (2 of 2)



Conclusion

- Saudi Health System ready for development
- Able to integrate innovative health technologies as there are few legacy systems
- Provision of standards-based electronic health records
- Holistic view taken of implementation

Thank You

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