2D Barcode System for Patient Identification in Mobile Radiography : Preliminary results

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Incorrect identity incident : one of important causes of adverse event and can lead to serious consequences

- 30,000 portable radiograph examinations per year performed in Prince of Wales Hospital
- 6 incorrect ID incidents between Jan 2004 and Dec 2010

 To achieve objective of zero tolerance of incorrect ID incident, a new 2D barcode system introduced for patient identification in mobile radiography



Objective :

To evaluate result of using this new 2D barcode system for patient identification in mobile radiography

Methods :

- 62,700 portable X-ray performed between Aug 2011 and Mar 2013
- All identification checked by new 2D barcode system

Modified Workflow in Radiology with Mapping of Imaging Cassette



Scan 2D barcode on patient wristband

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Scan 1D barcode on X-ray Request Form







Scan 1D barcode on Imaging Cassette

Print verification labels with patient data & cassette no. for mapping for subsequent imaging procedure

Results

- No incorrect ID incident reported
- Additional time ~ 1 2 minutes
- Implementation cost ~ HK \$0.24Million
- No significant delay in mobile radiograph taking during this study period



 Preliminary result showed that new 2D barcode system for patient identification in mobile radiography can achieve objective of zero tolerance on incorrect ID incident

A larger scale application of this system throughout the HA hospital recommended

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