

# Using Clinical Informatics to Inform Policy & Equity

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# Disclosures

- Financial
  - None
- Personal

# Objectives



Upon completion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Define **healthcare equity** within the context of **clinical informatics**
- Recognize the **impact** of clinical informatics on health equity
- Outline **strategies** for **integrating** clinical informatics into **policy** development
- Incorporate best practices for **integrating** clinical informatics into your **teaching**

# Overview



- How clinical informatics informs policy
- Clinical informatics and health equity
- Case studies: clinical informatics guiding policy and equity
- Barriers to using clinical informatics for policy and equity
- Future directions and innovations in clinical informatics to improve health equity

# Clinical Informatics

- Informatics harnesses the power and possibility of digital technology to transform data and information into knowledge that people use every day.
- The term “informatics” broadly describes the study, design, and development of information technology for the good of people, organizations, and society.
- Clinical informatics is the study of information technology and how it can be applied to the healthcare field.





# The Role of Clinical Informatics in Healthcare



# Equity

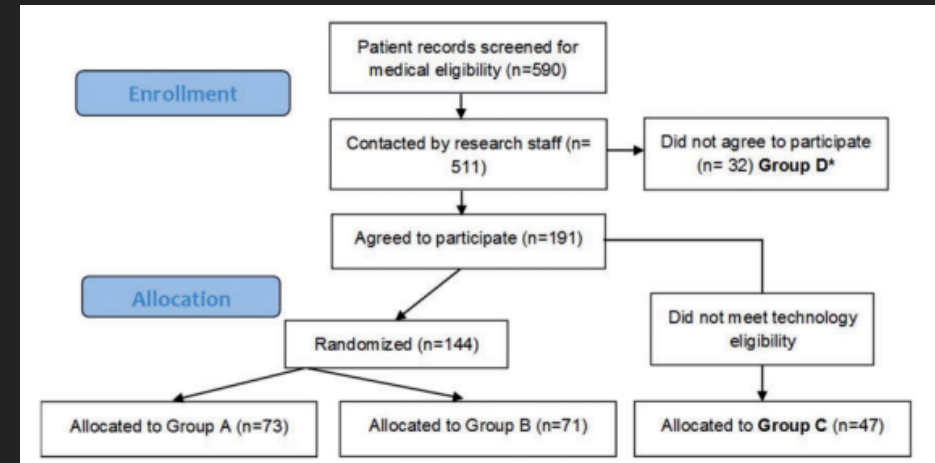


# Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

- Gathering Data
- Sharing Data
- Using Data
  - Detecting disparities
  - Understanding why disparities exist
  - Reducing disparities
- Incorporating SDOH Into Teaching



# Importance for Equity in Shaping Policy



# Data Quality



WSLS 10 / WSLS.com

September 10 at 10:11AM · ⚙️

As far as fatal drug overdoses last year, Roanoke doesn't have a top spot either. Instead, Petersburg City had the highest numbers in Virginia.



WSLS.COM

**Roanoke City is no longer in the top 10 for non-fatal opioid overdoses in the U.S.**  
Drug addiction is a continuing problem across the nation and in our area, but Roanoke has se...

# Data-Driven Decision Making





# Data-Driven Decision Making

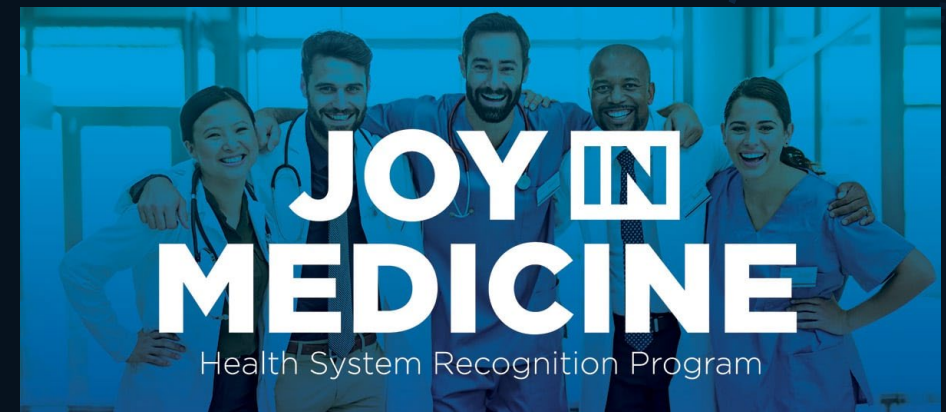
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# Promoting Equity through Carilion Policies



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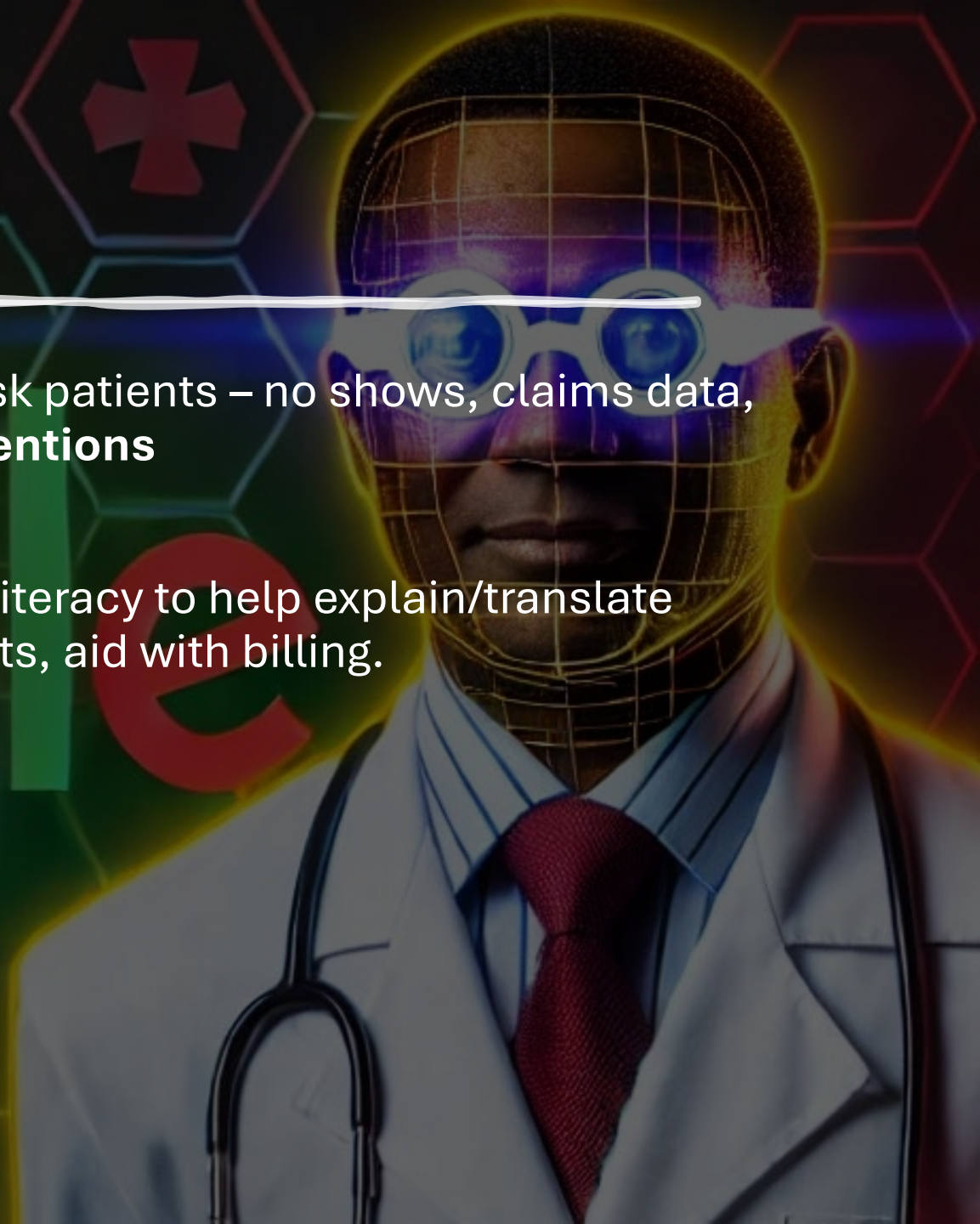




# The future is here...

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- Machine learning algorithms to identify high risk patients – no shows, claims data, demographics, notes data - and **target interventions**
- AI navigators – target patients with low health literacy to help explain/translate healthcare information, schedule appointments, aid with billing.
- Pocket Doctor AKA Dr. Google.



# Wrap Up

- Clinical informatics drives discussions when forming policy
- Health equity should be incorporated in those discussions
- Collecting, curating and accessing good data is key in affecting policy development and operations
- Integrating equity into your teaching by asking, be intentional.



# Questions

