

ABSTRACT FORM

Hong Kong International Medical Informatics Conference 2003 "Sustaining Quality Through Informatics - An Experiential Journey"

23-25 January 2003

Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building

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Instructions to Authors:

Abstracts must be submitted to the Conference Secretariat no later than **1 November 2002**. Each abstract should state the aims of the study, methods used, results obtained and conclusions reached. Abstracts should not exceed 400 words. Abstract must include title, author & affiliation.

Please use the format illustrated (overleaf). Do not exceed the space provided for the abstract.

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SAMPLE

A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis: Shared-care Compared with Specialist Clinics

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Aims and objectives: Information technology has made possible new forms of care such as shared-care (SC), which is a method of coordinating the care, between general practice and specialist services, of individuals who have a condition requiring long-term follow-up. It is essential to evaluate new systems and to compare their effectiveness and costs with conventional methods.

Methods: A computer based SC scheme was set up to provide long term care for well-controlled hypertensive patients previously attending outpatient specialist clinics (OSC). SC was evaluated, in a randomised trial, for its cost-effectiveness compared with OSC. The measure of effectiveness used was the number of patients who had a complete review carried out in one year of the study period. Costs included all variable costs to the patient and to the health service.

Findings: The results showed that SC is about half as expensive as OSC but more effective.

Conclusions: Purpose designed information systems can be used to support continuing care between different levels of the referral system and achieve the same or higher workloads at less than the cost of conventional approaches to care.