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A Study on the Use of Information Technology to Improve the Accuracy of Coding on the First Page of Medical Cases

Liang Liming

Yulin City Fumian District Maternal and Child Health Care Hospital, Yulin, Guangxi, China

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Abstract: As a crucial component of medical information management, the coding of the medical record front page is directly associated with the accuracy of medical data statistics, medical insurance settlement, and the reliability of medical research. Nevertheless, the current coding work of the medical record front page confronts numerous challenges, such as the uneven professional proficiency of coding personnel, the sub - standard quality of medical record writing, and the cumbersome coding process, which result in the coding accuracy being unable to meet the practical requirements. With the rapid advancement of information technology, electronic medical record systems, coding assistance software, and natural language processing technology have gradually been applied in the field of medical record front - page coding, offering novel solutions for enhancing coding accuracy. Through mechanisms such as data standardization, intelligent coding assistance, quality control and review, and knowledge sharing and training, information technology effectively reduces human errors, optimizes the coding process, and improves the efficiency and quality of coding. This study aims to explore the application effectiveness of information technology in the coding of the medical record front page, analyze its mechanism of action, evaluate its achievements in combination with real - life cases, provide feasible improvement strategies for medical institutions, and promote the modern development of the coding work of the medical record front page.

1. Introduction

The coding of the medical record front page is a core aspect of medical information management. Its accuracy directly impacts the statistics of medical data, the fairness of medical insurance settlement, and the scientific nature of medical research. However, there are currently numerous issues in the coding work of medical record front pages. The professional proficiency of coding personnel varies widely. Some individuals have an insufficient in - depth understanding of coding rules, resulting in frequent coding errors. The quality of medical record writing is subpar. Some medical record contents are vague and incomplete, which increases the difficulty of coding. The traditional coding process is cumbersome and relies on manual operations, being inefficient and error - prone. These problems not only affect the quality of medical data but may also lead to deviations in medical insurance settlement and even damage the reputation of medical institutions.

The rapid development of information technology offers new perspectives for solving these problems. Electronic medical record systems can achieve standardized collection and storage of medical record data, reducing coding errors caused by non - standard medical record writing. Coding assistance software can automatically recommend codes based on medical record information through intelligent matching algorithms, thereby lowering the incidence of human errors. Natural language processing technology can conduct semantic analysis of medical record texts, further enhancing the accuracy of coding. In addition, information technology can also play a significant role in coding quality control and review, knowledge sharing, and training, providing coding personnel with timely and accurate coding knowledge and training resources to improve their professional levels.

Although the application of information technology in the coding of medical record front pages has achieved certain results, there are still some deficiencies and challenges. For instance, the information systems of some medical institutions have poor compatibility, making it difficult to achieve seamless data docking; coding personnel have a low acceptance of new technologies, limiting the application effects of information technology; data security risks also restrict the further promotion of information technology. Therefore, how to fully leverage the advantages of information technology and overcome its application deficiencies has become the focus of current research. This study will explore aspects such as the current application status, mechanism of action, and actual effects of information technology, providing theoretical basis and practical guidance for medical institutions to improve the accuracy of medical record front - page coding [1].

2. Overview of case-first page coding

2.1. Definition and role of case-first coding

The coding of the medical record front page is a crucial aspect in medical information management. Its essence lies in converting information such as patients' diagnoses, surgeries, and treatments into standardized codes to facilitate data statistics, analysis, and application. The accuracy of coding directly impacts the quality of medical data, which in turn affects the reliability of medical insurance settlement, medical quality assessment, and medical research. Under standard frameworks like the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), coders are required to transform complex medical information into concise and unified codes based on the content of medical records. This process not only demands that coders possess solid professional knowledge but also requires a profound understanding of the medical record content. However, due to the uneven quality of medical record writing and the complexity and diversity of coding rules, the coding work often faces significant challenges. The role of the medical record front - page coding extends far beyond data recording. It is an important tool for medical management, providing basic data support for hospital operation decision - making, medical insurance payment review, and public health policy formulation. Therefore, improving the coding accuracy is not merely a technical issue but a key factor in enhancing the quality of medical services.

2.2. Coding rules and standards

The International Classification of Diseases (ICD) is currently a widely - adopted coding standard across the globe. Its latest version, ICD - 11, has conducted a more meticulous classification and definition of diseases, injuries, symptoms, etc. In China, based on the ICD and in combination with the actual situation, national standards such as the "Classification and Codes of Diseases" and the "Classification and Codes of Surgical Operations" have been formulated. These standards not only stipulate the specific rules of coding but also clarify the logical structure and

application scenarios of coding. In their actual work, coders are required to strictly adhere to these standards to transform complex medical information into standardized codes. However, the professionalism and complexity of coding rules pose relatively high requirements for coders. A slight oversight may lead to coding errors. Moreover, with the rapid development of medical technology, new diseases and new surgical operations are emerging continuously, and the coding standards also need to be constantly updated and improved. Only by thoroughly understanding and proficiently applying the coding rules and standards can the accuracy and consistency of coding be ensured, providing a reliable guarantee for the scientific management and application of medical data [2].

2.3. Problems of current coding work

Currently, the coding work of medical record front pages is confronted with numerous issues, which directly impact the accuracy and efficiency of coding. The professional proficiency of coding personnel varies significantly. Some individuals have an insufficiently in - depth understanding of coding rules, resulting in frequent coding errors. The quality of medical record writing is subpar. Many medical record contents are vague and incomplete, and there are even cases where key information is omitted, thus increasing the difficulty of coding. The traditional coding process relies on manual operations, which is inefficient and error - prone, making it difficult to handle the ever - growing volume of medical data. Coding rules are updated frequently, and some coding personnel fail to master the latest standards in a timely manner, causing the codes to be inconsistent with the actual medical information. Moreover, the coding work lacks an effective quality control mechanism, making it difficult to detect and correct incorrect codes promptly. These problems not only reduce the accuracy of coding but may also affect the fairness of medical insurance settlement and the scientific nature of medical data. Although the application of information technology provides new ideas for solving these problems, challenges such as system compatibility and personnel acceptance still exist during its promotion. Only by facing up to these issues can we find practical and feasible solutions to improve the coding accuracy.

3. Current status of information technology application in case file coding

3.1. Commonly used information technology tools

The application of information technology in the coding of the front page of medical records has gradually emerged as a crucial means to enhance coding efficiency and accuracy. The Electronic Medical Record system (EMR) serves as the foundation, digitizing the content of medical records to facilitate rapid retrieval and extraction of key information by coding personnel. Natural Language Processing (NLP) technology, through intelligent analysis of medical record texts, automatically identifies key information such as diagnoses and surgeries and generates preliminary coding suggestions, significantly reducing the workload of manual operations. The coding assistance system, based on the ICD standards, offers real - time coding rule prompts and error verification functions, aiding coding personnel in avoiding common errors. Big data analysis technology, by mining historical coding data, identifies coding patterns and abnormal situations, providing data support for coding optimization. Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology plays a significant role in coding review [3]. Through machine - learning models, it automatically detects and corrects coding errors. The application of these technological means not only boosts coding efficiency but also reduces human errors, providing strong support for the accuracy of the coding of the front page of medical records. However, the promotion of these technologies still faces challenges such as system integration and data security, which require further exploration and improvement.

3.2. Deficiencies and Challenges

Although the application of information technology in the coding of the first page of medical records has achieved certain results, it still faces numerous deficiencies and challenges. The issue of system compatibility is prominent. The standards of electronic medical record systems and coding assistance tools used in different hospitals vary, making it difficult to achieve seamless data docking and thus affecting coding efficiency. The depth and breadth of technology application are insufficient. Some hospitals still rely on traditional manual coding, and information technology has not achieved full - scale coverage. The problem of data quality urgently needs to be addressed. Phenomena such as incomplete medical record content and non - standard writing are widespread, making it difficult for technologies like natural language processing to accurately identify key information. The training of artificial intelligence models depends on a large amount of high - quality data, but the privacy and sensitivity of medical data limit data sharing and utilization. The acceptance and operational capabilities of coding staff regarding information technology vary. Some staff have weak adaptability to new technologies, which affects the actual application effect. In addition, the introduction of information technology has increased the complexity of system maintenance and data security management, and hospitals face pressure in terms of technological investment and resource allocation. If these problems are not properly resolved, they will restrict the further promotion and efficiency improvement of information technology in coding work.

4. Mechanisms of information technology to improve the accuracy of coding on the first page of cases

4.1. Data standardization and normalization

Data standardization and normalization stand as one of the core mechanisms through which information technology enhances the accuracy of coding for the front - page of medical records. The electronic medical record system is required to unify data entry standards and clarify the filling specifications for key fields such as diagnoses, surgeries, and operations, so as to avoid ambiguous or redundant information. Establishing standardized medical record templates mandates that doctors utilize unified terminology and formats when writing medical records, thereby reducing textual ambiguities. Standardizing the coding rule library is of utmost importance. It should be based on the latest ICD standards, updated and maintained regularly to ensure that coders can access accurate and consistent rule references. Standardizing data interfaces is another crucial aspect. Seamless connectivity should be achieved between the hospital's internal systems and external platforms such as medical insurance and statistics, minimizing information loss or errors during data conversion. Natural language processing technology relies on high - quality annotated data. A standardized training dataset should be established, covering various diseases and scenarios, to improve the recognition accuracy of the model [4]. A data quality control mechanism is indispensable. Real - time checks on medical record content and coding results should be conducted via automated verification tools to detect and correct errors. Data security and privacy protection should not be overlooked either. Standardized data desensitization and encryption processes need to be formulated to ensure that sensitive information is not leaked. The implementation of these measures will provide a high - quality data foundation for coding work, significantly enhancing coding accuracy and efficiency.

4.2. Intelligent coding assistance

Intelligent coding assistance serves as a pivotal mechanism in information technology to enhance

the accuracy of medical record front - page coding. Its core lies in leveraging technological means to minimize manual operations, thereby augmenting coding efficiency and precision. Natural language processing technology forms the foundation of intelligent coding assistance. Through semantic analysis of medical record texts, it can automatically identify crucial information such as diagnoses, surgeries, and procedures, and generate preliminary coding suggestions. This process not only alleviates the workload of coding personnel but also mitigates errors caused by human negligence. The intelligentization of the coding rule library represents another key aspect. The system, based on the latest ICD standards, offers real - time coding rule prompts and error verification functions, enabling coding personnel to swiftly pinpoint and rectify issues. The application of machine learning technology further refines the effect of coding assistance. By training models to recognize complex medical record scenarios, it can generate more accurate coding suggestions. Big data analytics technology plays a significant role in intelligent coding assistance. Through the exploration of historical coding data, it can identify coding patterns and anomalies, providing data - based support for coding optimization. The introduction of the artificial intelligence auditing module realizes the automated inspection of coding results. By comparing medical record contents with coding results, it can detect and correct potential errors. The intelligent coding assistance system should also possess excellent interactivity. Coding personnel can adjust system suggestions according to actual requirements to ensure that the coding results align with clinical realities.

4.3. Quality Control and Audit

Quality control and auditing are the core aspects of information technology in enhancing the accuracy of the coding of the front page of medical records. Its objective is to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the coding results through systematic means. Automated verification tools serve as the foundation for achieving quality control. The system conducts real - time comparisons between the medical record content and the coding results, identifies issues such as discrepancies between diagnoses and codes and errors in coding rules, and generates prompt messages. Establishing a multi - level auditing mechanism is of crucial importance. It includes automatic system auditing, self - auditing by coding personnel, and expert review, forming a complete auditing chain to minimize errors to the greatest extent. The data traceability function is an important safeguard for quality control. The system records the coding process and modification history of each medical record, facilitating problem location and responsibility assignment. The application of artificial intelligence technology in the auditing process further enhances efficiency. By training models to recognize common errors and abnormal situations, it provides precise auditing suggestions. The establishment of a coding quality assessment system helps to quantify the coding accuracy, generate quality reports regularly, and provide data support for improvement work. A training and feedback mechanism is indispensable. The system generates personalized training suggestions based on the auditing results to help coding personnel enhance their professional capabilities. Data security and privacy protection are also important in quality control. Strict permission management and data desensitization processes need to be formulated to ensure that sensitive information is not leaked [5].

4.4. Knowledge Sharing and Training

Knowledge sharing and training serve as pivotal mechanisms for information technology to enhance the accuracy of medical record front - page coding. The core of this lies in elevating the professional competence and knowledge level of coding personnel through systematic means. Establishing a standardized knowledge base is the foundation for achieving knowledge sharing. It

encompasses the latest ICD coding rules, cases of common coding errors, and examples of complex medical record coding, offering comprehensive learning resources for coding personnel. The construction of an online training platform has broken the constraints of time and space. Coding personnel can select courses according to their own needs to improve their professional capabilities. The introduction of interactive learning modules has enhanced the training effectiveness. Through forms such as case analysis and simulated coding, it helps coding personnel gain in - depth understanding of coding rules and practical applications. The regular hosting of expert lectures and experience - sharing activities promotes knowledge dissemination. Industry experts and senior coding personnel are invited to share their experiences and answer difficult questions. The coding quality assessment and feedback mechanism is an important part of the training. The system generates personalized learning suggestions based on the coding results to help coding personnel make targeted improvements. The community function of the knowledge - sharing platform provides a space for coding personnel to communicate and interact. Through forms such as discussion areas and Q&A sections, it promotes experience sharing and problem - solving. The establishment of a continuous learning mechanism ensures the knowledge update of coding personnel. The system regularly pushes the latest coding rules and industry trends to help coding personnel keep up with the industry development trends. Data security and privacy protection are equally important in knowledge sharing. Strict access permissions for the knowledge base and data desensitization processes need to be formulated to ensure that sensitive information is not leaked.

4.5. System integration and interaction optimization

System integration and interaction optimization play a pivotal and indispensable role in leveraging information technology to enhance the accuracy of medical record front - page coding. This mechanism enables all relevant systems to collaborate closely, akin to a smoothly - functioning precision instrument, offering substantial support for the coding work. The in - depth integration of the electronic medical record system and the coding system represents a crucial step. Through such integration, coding personnel are spared the need to switch back and forth between different systems to search for information. The detailed contents of diagnoses, treatments, etc. in the medical records can be directly presented on the coding operation interface. For instance, descriptions of patients' symptoms, examination results, etc., can be quickly accessed by coding personnel for accurate coding, thus avoiding information omission and manual input errors and significantly improving coding efficiency and accuracy. The seamless connection between the hospital information system (HIS) and the coding system is also essential. The HIS system encompasses patients' basic information, hospitalization processes, etc. After interacting with the coding system, it can provide more background information for coding. For example, the patient's hospitalization department, operation time, etc., can assist coding personnel in making more precise judgments, ensuring that the codes correspond to the actual medical situations. The optimization of the system interaction interface is equally significant. A simple and intuitive interface design allows coding personnel to operate with greater ease. The interface can be equipped with an intelligent prompt function. When coding personnel input relevant diagnostic information, the system automatically pops up possible coding options and related explanations to help them quickly select the correct codes. Meanwhile, a historical coding query function is provided to facilitate coding personnel in referring to the coding situations of previous similar cases. System integration and interaction optimization constitute a systematic project.

5. Conclusion

The application of information technology has provided a novel avenue for enhancing the

accuracy of the coding on the front page of medical records. Through mechanisms such as data standardization and normalization, intelligent coding assistance, quality control and review, knowledge sharing and training, information technology has effectively reduced human errors in the coding process, optimized the coding workflow, and elevated the efficiency and quality of coding. Nevertheless, the application of information technology is not an overnight achievement, and challenges in aspects such as system compatibility, personnel acceptance, and data security still need to be surmounted. In the future, medical institutions should increase their investment in information technology, optimize the design of information systems, and strengthen the training of coding personnel to enhance their acceptance and application capabilities of information technology. Meanwhile, relevant departments should formulate unified technical standards to promote the interconnection of information systems and ensure the security and integrity of data. The in - depth application of information technology will bring revolutionary changes to the coding work on the front page of medical records, drive the modernization of medical information management, and offer strong support for the improvement of medical quality and the fairness of medical insurance settlement.

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