

Team #3 – Ty Lee, Kevin Scharnhorst, Mike Sleep

Discuss one of the following questions with your group. (due July 5 at 5PM CST)

Choose a **new** scribe for each group, who will present a summary of the discussion, and any conclusions reached, during the next synchronous session.

Group Topics (Selected group topic indicated with highlight):

- **Why might physicians be reluctant to use a diagnostic support tool?**
 - How can physicians learn how to optimally weight clues they discover leading to particular diagnoses? For example, a patient complains of slightly worsening migraines during a stressful work period and one episode of blood in the stool.
 - How can physicians learn when to investigate asymptomatic clues? For example, a minor component of a blood test series is reported as abnormal.
- 1) Physicians feel comfortable with what they know and were taught. Particularly with physicians that have been in practice for a number of years. It's always difficult to convince them to utilize new technologies. Their familiarity and acceptance of computers in general will no doubt influence this as well.
 - 2) Concerns for accuracy might be another barrier to greater adoption. Reliance on medical journals and text based reference is more prevalent and trusted. Until electronic diagnostic tools become more main stream, physicians might feel more comfortable with diagnostic reference tools they have come to trust. This concern might be alleviated over time as adoption of electronic tools become more widespread.
 - 3) Lack of standards. Until all electronic decision support systems operate on a set of industry accepted standards, the reliability of the system remains in question. Evidence based standards might be the solution to this.
 - 4) Immaturity in the market. Vendors offering solutions for these tools are limited and relatively new in this space.
 - 5) Insufficient resources to support the system. Hospitals and private practices might lack the in-house technical resources in order to support the system. It might also be unattractive to build in reliance on a software vendor to support the system.
 - 6) Cost might be a factor in that implementation and ongoing support would add additional expense to operational costs for the practice.