Information Quality and Health Risk Analysis: What is the Impact on Wellness Programs

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ABSTRACT
Companies today are concerned with the escalating costs for employee health insurance. Overall health of employees affects the future cost of health insurance and employee productivity. Research has shown that wellness programs can improve employee health and that health risk assessments (HRAs) are an integral part. While there is no universal HRA questionnaire, they all try to assess the same aspects of individual behavior. Since 2008, a hospital-based wellness program has collected self-entered HRAs. Optical mark HRA forms were used in the first two years and, thereafter, data was collected with an Internet-based system using an equivalent HRA questionnaire. Information quality (IQ) is not a single metric covering only accuracy. The IQ of a HRA can be defined using a PSP/IQ model consisting of sound information, useful information, dependable information, and usable information. This paper describes a preliminary study on the IQ of HRAs and its effect on the value of wellness programs.

Keywords
Information Quality, Health Information Technology, Health Risk Assessment.