

MAYA Viz Helps Doctors See the Big Picture

Over the years, doctors have been plagued by the inability and unwillingness to share information, which impedes treatment and diagnostic improvements, and makes the practice of medicine less effective. Although technology has benefited medicine in many important ways, the collaborative research process has been largely overlooked.

more efficient via an outcome-based approach which emphasizes clinical research—gathering data and finding patterns based on the same treatments. Two important components of Esserman's overall goal are:

- expediting cancer diagnosis and treatment—for instance, by reducing diagnostic turn around time from three weeks to one day

MAYA worked with physicians and surgeons at Esserman's clinic to design a visualization of patient records, allowing doctors and clinicians to understand the patient's history at a glance. The result is a visualization design called 'Patient at a Glance' that displays patient events, diagnoses, treatments, and procedures along a timeline. Each is color-coded according to its type.

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Patient at a Glance lets users drill down to more specific information about each event, giving them the information they need for a firm understanding of the situation.

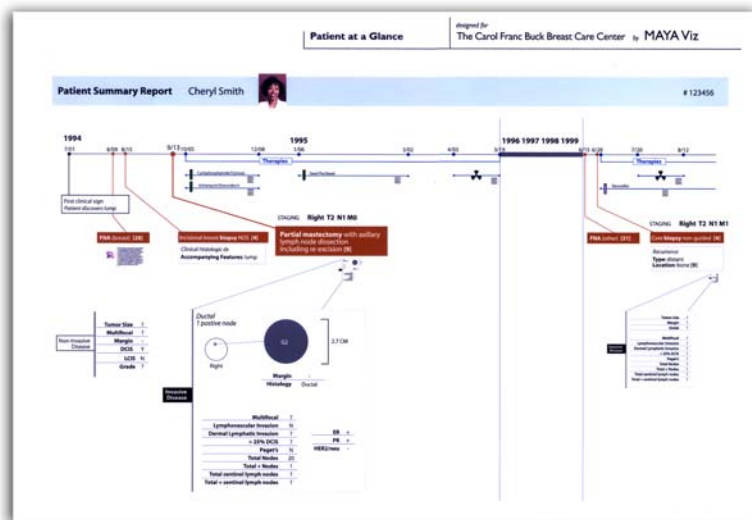
The next step will be to use CoMotion™, MAYA Viz's collaborative visualization toolkit, to bring the big picture to life. With CoMotion, Esserman's database of patient data will morph into visual form, to create image-based patient records that can be understood in seconds.

Esserman is associate professor of surgery and radiology at University of California at San Francisco, an associate faculty member at the Institute for Health Policy Studies and director of the Franc Buck Breast Care Center. In her role as director of the Franc Buck Breast Care Center, Dr. Laura Esserman's goal is to make the practice of medicine

- involving patients in their treatment plans and allowing them to contribute to the process rather than dictating it to them

The ability to see the big picture and view significant events over time is critical to Esserman's outcome-based approach, and Dr. Esserman approached MAYA Viz to help create a solution.

Additionally, visual records will be created that help identify patterns based on treatments given to people in specific demographics. These



visual representations make it significantly easier for doctors to research, identify and track patterns based on outcomes. MAYA Viz is in the process of making it even easier for doctors to share information and learn from one another by making its CoMotion software available on handheld devices.

For More Information—

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The collaborative process is markedly improved, resulting in better outcomes for patients, time savings for medical professionals, and lower costs.

With healthcare cost going up, treatment options narrowing, patients switching from one plan to the next, and aggressive limits from HMOs on a doctor's time and care options, MAYA Viz's software is a welcome new approach to seeing, sharing, and solving clinical problems.