Mayo Clinic encourages precision medicine to treat depression

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

By combining an electronic health record system with genetic testing results, psychiatrists at the Mayo Clinic are able to personalize treatment for patients taking antidepressants. The confluence of EHRs and precision medicine is proving to be a powerful tool for optimizing the prescriptions of antidepressant medication tailored to individual patients.

"Clinically, some people do very well with these medicines, and sometimes they are not useful," says Mark Frye, the department chair of psychiatry and psychology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. "It would be a major clinical advance if we could better individualize treatments for depression and create an interface in the electronic health record that could do that efficiently."

Armed with the results of this genetic testing and an EHR, Frye believes physicians can now make more precise pharmacotherapy recommendations that are optimized for specific patients. He argues that data in the hands of clinicians at the right time is crucial for helping them to make the right drug choice for their patients.

Read full, original post: Mayo Clinic uses EHRs, genetics to tailor patients' antidepressants