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Information technologies have expanding role in health care

We ask executives to address issues facing young professionals. Today's expert is *Timothy R. McCormick, president and CEO of Unity Health System.*

Information technology is a fast-growing field. How does this affect jobs in health care for young professionals?

We have seen a rapid evolution of information technology in health care. With this evolution come opportunities for information technology professionals, such as coders and database analysts, to enter the health care industry. We expect these opportunities to increase in the future.

We are in an era of change, where handwritten medical records are being phased out. Health care organizations are relying more on technologies such as electronic medical records that help streamline information. There is a need for information technology professionals who are trained to develop new programs and manage existing ones that help build electronic information systems so that a patient's health care team can share important information.

As we ask ourselves how we can improve health care we provide our patients, we will look to information technology professionals for guidance. This is where health care and information technology will come together, and potential new career opportunities will be born.

— *Victoria E. Freile*
