

Walter Sujansky, MD, PhD

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- 2003 - Present **Sujansky & Associates, LLC** **San Carlos, CA**
President and Senior Consultant. Leading a healthcare I.T. consulting practice that specializes in the representation, use, and exchange of clinical data in information systems. Services include requirements analysis, technology and vendor evaluation, data-architecture design, software development, and product/project management. See www.sujansky.com for information about recent projects. References available upon request.
- 2000 – 2003 **ePocrates, Inc.** **San Carlos, CA**
Director, Product Development. Directed a team of product managers in the conceptualization, requirements analysis, and detailed specification of products for managing drug-prescribing information on handheld devices. During tenure, the team successfully delivered a new formulary-publishing application, an updated version of the ePocrates drug-reference guide, a redesigned PDA-based messaging system, and a pilot implementation of an electronic prescribing tool. Responsibilities included product design (including UI design, data modeling, and terminology coding), competitive research, personnel management, and support for sales and business development activities.
- 1999 – 2000 **Apelon, Inc.** **Alameda, CA**
Director, Commercial Products. Managed all facets of product development for the company's non-government (commercial) market. Apelon's products include terminology-management tools based on the Unified Medical Language System, as well as terminology-development tools based on description logic. Responsibilities included requirements analysis, product design, user-interface design, management of engineering staff, quality assurance, user documentation, and sales support. Also consulted to major customers (including the AMA and Kaiser Permanente). Engagements included the design of an enhanced model for the CPT-4 coding system.
- 1997 – 1999 **Oceania, Inc.** **Redwood City, CA**
Director, Clinical Data Engineering. Led a 6-person team responsible for the design and implementation of clinical data models used by an electronic medical record application. Models included XML representations of medical records to support reporting, decision support, and document interchange. XML-modeling activity included specification of document type definitions for clinical notes, as well as encoding of clinical data using the SNOMED-RT and Multum terminologies.
- 1996 to 1997 **WiSE Medical Systems** **Los Gatos, CA**
Clinical Data Engineer. Designed clinical coding system for an ambulatory EMR.
- 1991 to 1994 **Institute for Medical Informatics** **Palo Alto, CA**
Consultant. Designed terminology server and terminology model for a H.I.S. rules engine.
- Skills**
- Expertise in medical informatics, especially the representation, communication, and analysis of clinical data. Significant experience in controlled medical vocabularies and code sets.
 - Facile with SQL (Oracle, Sybase, and MS-Access), Java, Visual Basic .NET, C, and Perl. Significant experience with XML, XML schema/DTD, and XSLT transformation technologies, as well as web services and WSDL. Hands-on knowledge of HL7 and NCPDP messaging standards.
 - Project and product management skills.
- Education**
- Stanford University** **Stanford, CA**
Earned M.D. and Ph.D. in Medical Information Sciences Program, a multidisciplinary graduate program combining research in computer science, decision theory, and biomedicine. Doctoral thesis defined a model for uniform access to heterogeneous clinical databases via the application of semantic data models and automated query-translation techniques. Graduated 1996.
- Harvard College** **Cambridge, MA**
Graduated *cum laude*. Earned B.A. in economics while minoring in pre-medical sciences. *Phi Beta Kappa*, Junior year. Graduated 1986.

Recent Speaking Engagements

Standards for Storing and Exchanging Clinical Data in Electronic Health Record Systems. Tutorial, American Medical Informatics Association 2008 Annual Symposium. Washington, D.C. November 8, 2008. Also presented at 2007 Annual Symposium. Chicago, IL. November 11, 2007.

Streamlining the Lab Connection – The ELINCS-HL7 Specification and CCHIT Certification. Panel presentation, Toward the Electronic Patient Record (TEPR) Conference. Dallas, TX. May 21, 2007.

ELINCS: Benefits and Challenges of a Standard EHR-Lab Interoperability Specification. Lab Institute Conference 2006. Arlington, VA. September 29, 2006.

EHRs and Disease Registries as Tools for Measuring and Improving Quality in Pay-for-Performance Programs. Towards Electronic Patient Records (TEPR) Conference 2005. Salt Lake City, UT. May 18, 2005.

Other Activities and Honors

Member, Health Information Technology Standards Panel, 2005 – present.

Judge, Electronic Medical Record Product Awards. Towards Electronic Patient Records (TEPR) Conference. 2003-2005.

Consultant to National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, Department of Health and Human Services. 2002-2003. Analyzed and evaluated over 40 clinical data terminologies.

Publications

W. Sujansky, M. Overhage, et. al. The Development of a Highly Constrained HL7 Implementation Guide to Facilitate Electronic Laboratory Reporting to Ambulatory EHRs. *The Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association.* 2009; 16: 285-290.

W. Sujansky & S. Chang. The California Clinical Data Project: A Case Study in the Adoption of Clinical Data Standards for Quality Improvement. *The Journal of Health Information Management.* 2006. Vol. 20, Num. 3.

W. Sujansky. Clinical Terminologies for Data Analysis and Structured Data Entry. Book chapter in J. Silva, Ed. *Cancer Informatics: Essential Technologies.* 2002. Springer-Verlag, New York.

W. Sujansky. Heterogeneous Database Integration in Biomedicine. *The Journal of Biomedical Informatics.* 2001 Aug; 34(4):285-98.

W. Sujansky. A Document-Centric Electronic Medical Record System with Database-Centric Reporting Capabilities. *Toward An Electronic Patient Record, Proceedings Manual.* San Antonio, TX. 1999.

W. Sujansky. The Benefits and Challenges of an Electronic Medical Record: Much More than a “Word-Processed” Patient Chart. *Western Journal of Medicine,* 169(3): 176-83, Sept. 1998.

Jenders RA, Sujansky W, Broverman CA, Chadwick M. Towards improved knowledge sharing: assessment of the HL7 Reference Information Model to support medical logic module queries. *Proceedings of the 1997 AMIA Annual Fall Symposium,* Washington, D.C., 308-12.. Hanley & Belfus, 1997.

W. Sujansky. *A Formal Model for Bridging Heterogeneous Relational Databases in Clinical Medicine.* (DOCTORAL THESIS). April 1996.

W. Sujansky & R. B. Altman. An Evaluation of the TransFER Model for Sharing Clinical Decision-Support Applications. In James J. Cimino, Ed., *Proceedings of the 1996 AMIA Annual Fall Symposium,* Washington, D.C., 468-472. Hanley & Belfus, 1996.

W. Sujansky & R. Altman. Towards a Standard Query Model for Sharing Decision-Support Applications. *Proceedings of the Eighteenth Annual Symposium on Computer Applications in Medical Care,* Washington, DC, 325-331. 1994.

- W. Sujansky & R. Altman. Bridging the Representational Heterogeneity of Clinical Databases. *AAAI Spring Symposium on Artificial Intelligence in Medicine*, Stanford, CA, 157-161. 1994.
- W. Sujansky & R. Altman. Towards a Universal Interface to Clinical Databases. *Abstract Book of the American Medical Informatics Association Spring Congress*, p. 122. San Francisco, May 1994.
- W. Sujansky & M. Shwe. The SQLX System: Generating Explanations for Clinical Rules Encoded in SQL. *Proceedings of the Sixteenth Annual Symposium on Applications in Medical Care*, Baltimore, MD, 239-243. 1992.
- W. Sujansky, D. Zingmond, M. Toshiyuki, & T. Barsalou. PENGUIN: An Intelligent System for Modeling and Sharing Declarative Knowledge Stored in Relational Databases. In K.C. Lun et al., Ed., *MEDINFO 92*, Palexpo Geneva, Switzerland, 466-471. 1992.
- W. Sujansky, T. Barsalou, & G. Wiederhold. Structural Semantics and Complex Objects for the Coupling of Relational Databases and Knowledge-Based Systems. *AAAI Workshop on Knowledge Base Management Systems*, Boston, MA. 1990.
- W. Sujansky, T. Barsalou, L. Herzenberg, & G. Wiederhold. An Enhanced Relational Database Model to Support the Design of Flow Cytometry Protocols. Abstract in *Proceedings of AMIA Educational and Research Conference*, Joyce Mitchell, Ed., p. 30. June 1990.
- M. Shwe, W. Sujansky, & B. Middleton. Reuse of Knowledge Represented in the Arden Syntax. *Proceedings of the Sixteenth Annual Symposium on Computer Applications in Medical Care*, Baltimore, MD, 47-51. 1992.
- T. Barsalou, W. Sujansky, L. Herzenberg, & G. Wiederhold. Management of Complex Immunogenetics Information Using an Enhanced Relational Model. *Computers and Biomedical Research*, 24(Issue):476-498, 1991.
- T. Barsalou, W. Sujansky, & G. Wiederhold. Expert Database Systems in Biomedicine: The PENGUIN Project. *AAAI Spring Symposium Series on AI in Medicine*, Stanford, CA, 14-17. 1990.
- G. Wiederhold, W. Sujansky, T. Barsalou, N. Siambela, D. Zingmond. Supporting Access to Multiple Databases for Multiple Views. *Extended Abstract, NLM Biomatrix Conference Proceedings*, George Mason Univ., Fairfax VA, July 1990.
- G. Wiederhold, T. Barsalou, W. Sujansky. Sharing Information Among Biomedical Applications. Presented at the SEMI Conference on Medical Informatics, Amsterdam, October 1990.
- K. Law, G. Wiederhold, T. Barsalou, N. Siambela, W. Sujansky, D. Zingmond. Managing Design Objects in a Sharable Relational Framework. CIFE, Stanford University, March 1990.
- H. Claman, K. Choi, W. Sujansky, A. Vatter. Mast Cell Disappearance in Chronic Murine Graft-vs-Host Disease - Ultrastructural Demonstration of "Phantom Mast Cells." *The Journal of Immunology*, 137:2009-2013, 1986