Go biometric or risk a botch up

Today, most healthcare systems rely on text-based matching: A patient's identity (ID) card or driver's license is considered sufficient proof of identity. However, this 'identification system' puts patients at risk of death, improper treatment, insurance abuse and lawsuits the provider and hospital cannot defend.

Informatics expert Dr Raymond D Aller, a renowned authority on the use of information technology (IT) to enhance and ensure patient safety and operational efficiency, urges healthcare providers: 'Move toward biometrics as the mainstay for patient identification!'