



News & Events

Cerner

- 10/7—10/1 CHC. Kansas City, MO

Eclipsys

- 10/7—10/10 User Network Conference Orlando, FL

Epic

- 9/17—9/21 Epic User Group. Verona, WI

Meditech

- 5.6 / 6.0 early adopters continue testing

NextGen

- Announces New 'ChartMail Functionality'
- 11/5-11/7 Orlando, FL

Siemens

- 8/12—8/15 Health Services Innovations, Philadelphia, PA

HIMSS

- NJ - Annual Event Fall 2007
- NY - Annual Event Spring 2008



18 BARRINGTON LANE
CHESTER SPRINGS, PA

“Long lasting information for a few minutes investment”

July 1, 2007

Physician Productivity Paramount In The Deployment of an EMR

Maintaining physician productivity throughout the deployment and ongoing use of an Electronic Medical Record (“EMR”) often emerges as the single most important barometer of success associated with the EMR implementation. A reduction in physician productivity, generally defined as requiring more time to see a patient than without an EMR, often results in a series of spiraling events that ultimately could lead to the discontinuance of use of the EMR.

These events include:

1. Requiring more time to see a patient.
2. Longer work hours required to see the same volume patients pre EMR.
3. Reduced revenue and compensation.
4. Physician dissatisfaction.
5. Increased employment costs for clinicians to enter data into the EMR.
6. Loss of confidence in the value/purpose of the EMR.
7. Displacement of the EMR and return to paper medical record.



Given physicians' rigorous and hectic schedule, even a several minute increase in the time it takes to see a patient can generate significantly disastrous results from a business operations perspective. To successfully maintain physician productivity attention to multiple factors must be paid from a People, Process and Technology perspective.

People:

1. Create and maintain a governance committee that has the power and stamina to set and enforce ground rules and standards surrounding the EMR
2. Insure well trained and prepared implementation team are assigned.

Process:

1. Perform and document pre-EMR and “future state” workflow analysis..
2. Identify the changes in workflow and how they will be supported either through a change in process, addition of technology or increase in people.
3. Continue to review the use of the EMR to optimize the capabilities of the EMR and supporting technology.

Technology:

1. Provide various options to allow the physician to enter their notes either using “canned reports/phrases”, utilization of voice recognition or use of point and click documenting tools.
2. Insure required interfaces to required ancillary application data (ie: laboratory results) are in place.
3. Insure scanning of documents and non-interfaced clinical reports is in place to minimize searching for information outside the EMR.

The successful deployment of an EMR can have far reaching benefits ranging from overall improvement of patient care, enhancement of operational efficiency and support of evolving pay-for-performance initiatives. As discussed, the physician's productivity is the key to reaching these benefits.

Michael Restuccia is President of MedMatica Consulting Associates, a healthcare consulting firm that specializes in the implementation of software and technology solutions within the healthcare industry. Mr. Restuccia has led the implementation efforts associated with multiple vendor EMR solutions in both the community and academic medical center settings.

MedMatica Consulting Associates is a healthcare information technology consulting firm that specializes in the implementation of Electronic Medical Record software and technology solutions within the healthcare industry. To learn more about MedMatica Consulting Associates, please contact (610) 827-1356 or

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