Advantages of Electronic Medical Records (EMR)

"Information technology may be the 'X Factor' responsible for the continuing growth of the US economy," Alan Greenspan.
Information technology will return control and independence to the physician

The Survey Says!

What are the benefits
of having an
EMR system?

1. Ability to prioritize tasks
2. Retrieval
3. Documentation is real-time
4. Less time charting

66 Caring, clinical competence, and sensitivity to the needs and preferences of patients have always been a physicians' most prized qualities. But just as the most caring, competent, and sensitive physician of today would be hard-pressed to build a successful practice without the telephone, those who choose not to communicate electronically with patients may soon find themselves at a similar disadvantage. 99

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	Paper Chart	Electronic Chart
PHYSICIAN		
• Able to prioritize tasks	low	high
• E&M coding	50% under-coded	compliant & documented
• Health maintenance	cognitive	prompted
• Lab results	11% reordered or lost	minimal reordering
• Prescribing drugs	manual	automated (direct faxing)
• Access chart from home	not available	easy
TRIAGE NURSE		
• 20 calls/day	15-20 pulls	2-4 chart pulls
• Return calls to pharmacy	2-3 per 100	1 per 100
• Resolution	>15 minutes	immediate
NURSE		
• Patient history	30 minutes	shifted to FTE or patient
• Recent history/test results	not available	real-time
• Vaccination rate	50% missed	17% missed opportunities
PHYSICIAN'S NURSE		
• Paper messages	many	few
• Pull chart for follow-up	often	seldom
• Interrupt doctor	often	minimal
TRANSCRIPTION		
• The text	context-sensitive	high % by clinician
• Accuracy	interpretative	direct entry
• Backlog	48 hr. turnaround	immediate to same day
MEDICAL RECORDS		
• Chart pulls	every patient	chart pulls down 80%
• Misfiled charts	common	never
• Availability of chart	70% of encounters	100%
• Courier charts to branch	each day	never
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
• Supporting documentation	scattered	immediate, legible
COMPLIANCE MONITORING		
• Quality review	2 charts / hour	100 charts / hour
• HIPAA, HEDIS, HCFA	manual	automated
OUTCOMES		
• Review of practices & patterns	not done	query database
• Benchmark Dr. performance	not done	query database
• Data structure	"dumb"	searchable
SECRETARIAL		
• Pre-certification	via transcription	initiated immediately
PATIENT		
• Satisfaction surveys	rare	routine
• E-mail	rare	standard