



More Physicians e-Prescribe

One in four physicians – 143,000 – e-Prescribe, double the number from a year ago. Through August, 110 million of the 3.7 billion prescriptions projected for 2009 by U.S. retail pharmacies were sent electronically. Medicare incentives to e-Prescribe are credited for the gain.

Red Flag rule postponed, again, until June 1, 2010.

Current PrimaryData Specials

• **15% off SpringCharts EHR** – Is your practice looking for ways to improve patient care and increase efficiencies? SpringCharts is a CCHIT certified EHR designed to work with providers and practices. Call us on our 15% off SpringCharts EHR 4th quarter special which runs through December 31, 2009. [Chiropractor TemplateWare™](#) is now available. For more information go to: www.primarydatacorp.com/springmedical.htm.

• **EHR Stimulus Lease Solution.** Need to implement an EHR solution in your practice but don't know how you can afford it? Spring Medical and PrimaryData team up to offer the SpringCharts EHR Stimulus Lease Program. Details on this special offer available at www.primarydatacorp.com/springmedical.htm.

• **Dell Latitude XT2** . The first tablet PC with multi-touch screen technology uses natural gestures like a pinch or tap for scrolling, rotating, zooming and more. Intel® Core™ 2, 3GB memory, 120GB hard drive, wireless 802.11a/g/n, Windows 7® Professional w/media, 3 year limited warranty/next business day on-site Dell service for \$2195 through December 15, 2009. **Vostro 1520** desktop PC with Windows 7® Professional, 15" monitor, 320GB internal, 500GB external hard drive - \$725 through November 30, 2009.

Call PrimaryData at **720-226-9270** for your healthcare technology questions and needs.

If you wish to stop receiving PrimaryNews, please send an email with the subject "Stop" to: news@primarydatacorp.com.

Please consider the environment before printing this document.

PrimaryNews Issue 09 November - December 2009

PrimaryData

Practical care for your practice.

8756 Dover Circle
Arvada, CO 80005-1584
720-226-9279 phone
866-852-4731 fax
www.primarydatacorp.com

Issue

09

November-December
2009

Healthcare
Technology
News and
Products

PrimaryNews



PrimaryView

The US currently spends 2.5 trillion dollars a year on health care, 16.2% of our GDP. The vast majority of that money is spent on chronic conditions.

The current fee-for-service system is very procedure based. Emphasis is on healthcare technology over the physician's connection with their patients. A major reason more providers have become specialists is that specialists have better opportunities to develop the patient-doctor relationship and facilitate positive patient care outcomes

Medical homes can help patients get preventive care, teach wellness, avoid duplication and coordinate records and provide a path for primary care physicians to facilitate better patient relationships and results.

Medical homes incorporate healthcare technology and high-touch opportunities for providers to work more closely with their patients -- what led most providers into healthcare in the first place.

Happy holidays to you and all near and dear.

Medical Home

The term "medical home" has been in many articles and discussions recently.

Medical home, also called the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH), provides comprehensive primary care facilitating partnerships between individual patients, and their personal physicians. Medical homes can provide better access to health care and health, and increase satisfaction with care.

In 2007 "[Joint Principles of the PCMH](#)" was released by the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Physicians and the American Osteopathic Association and included these principles for the PCMH:

• **Personal physician:** Each patient has an ongoing relationship with a personal physician trained to provide first contact, continuous and comprehensive care.

• **Physician directed medical practice:** Physician leads a team of individuals at the practice level who are responsible for the ongoing care of patients

• **Whole person orientation:** Physician is responsible for providing for all the patient's health care needs or arranging care with other qualified professionals.

This issue

- [Medical Home](#) p1
- [PQRI, e-Prescribing Changes](#) p2
- [Windows 7 Released](#) p2
- [SpringCharts 9.7.5](#) p2
- [Touch Screens and Tablet PCs](#) p3
- [Q&A, Trends, Picks](#) p3
- [More Physicians e-Prescribe](#) p4

• **Care is coordinated and/or integrated:** Across specialists, hospitals, home health agencies, and nursing homes.

• **Quality and safety:** Care planning process, evidence-based medicine, clinical decision-support tools, performance measurement, active participation of patients in decision-making, information technology, and quality improvement activities.

• **Enhanced access:** Care is available through open scheduling, expanded hours and new communication options.

• **Payment:** Value provided to patients is recognized. Payment reflects the value of work outside of face-to-face visits, supports health information technology for quality improvement, and recognizes case mix differences in the practices patient population being treated.

As the US looks for ways to control health care costs and increase patient health, primary care providers and the Medical Home are increasingly being looked at along with the healthcare technology required to facilitate adoption, manage the implementation, report the outcomes and provide proper reimbursement for practices moving to the Medical Home model.

Changes to PQRI and e-Prescribing Incentive Programs

Changes to physician quality reporting and e-prescribing incentives are being proposed by CMS. Proposed changes include new reporting measures, a way to report by group practice rather than individual physicians, and allowing reporting from an EHR. CMS also wants to make e-Prescribe reporting measures easier.

For PQRI in 2010, those that participate can earn an incentive payment of 2 percent of the estimated total allowed charges for Medicare Part B covered professional services. Key changes include:

- Adds 30 individual PQRI measures and 6 measures groups.
- Provisions of MIPPA that enable group practices to qualify for PQRI on a determination at the group practice level,
- Reporting mechanism to promote adoption and use of EHRs.

Key 2010 e-Prescribing changes simplify reporting requirements by:

- Reporting e-Prescribing code only when a patient visit results in an e-Prescription.
- Allows reporting through qualified registries or a qualified EHR product.
- Includes professional services furnished in skilled nursing facilities, domiciliary care or the home-care setting.
- Provisions of MIPPA that enable group practices to qualify on a determination at the group practice level.

Backing up your data can never take a holiday off. Be vigilant, be protected.



Windows® 7 makes the things you do every day faster and easier with fewer clicks, fast searching, easier browsing, and simpler ways to connect. Windows® 7 is designed to make PCs start up, shut down, resume from sleep, and respond faster.

• **Simple to use:** Get around and get things done faster with simpler, streamlined, navigation.

• **Easy to browse web:** Browse the web faster and easier with IE 8.

• **Easy to connect:** Easily share printers and documents with multiple PCs on your home network and stay connected more easily when you're away from home.

• **Easy to communicate and share:** Communicating and sharing is easier with Windows® 7 and Windows Live Essentials making e-mail, IM, and editing and sharing photos and videos easier (with Windows Live Mail, Messenger, and Photo Gallery).

• **Reduce interruptions:** Before Windows told you something needed attention. Now an Action Center icon informs you.

Windows® 7 is designed to improve the performance of your PC, so it's faster, more secure, and more reliable. PCs with Windows® 7 simply work the way you want them to work.

• **Faster and more reliable:** Windows® 7 is designed to make PCs more reliable and responsive.

• **More secure:** Improved security helps safeguard your PC and your privacy.

• **Compatibility:** With Windows 7 Professional or Ultimate you'll be able to run many programs designed for Windows XP.

• **Work anywhere:** See and connect to available networks, including Wi-Fi, broadband, dial-up, and VPN, in just a few clicks.

• **New ways to use:** Touch screens are easier and more intuitive to use.

A word of safety:

Before upgrading your operating system check with your application vendors to determine if your program, interfaces and any system drivers are supported.

SpringCharts EHR 9.7.5 Released

Spring Medical recently announced the availability of SpringCharts EHR 9.7.5 which offers new features and enhancements to improve overall product reliability and usability. The new version focuses on streamlining the office workflow, increasing patient safety and saving practices time and money. New features include:

• **e-Prescribing Module:** Real-time clinical tools include drug interactions, formulary checking, dosage checking, prescription history, and automated prescription renewals.

• **User Interface Enhancements:** New buttons, forms and tabs have been added to reduce typing, minimize errors and increase the speed of charting.

• **Print Formatting:** New print formatting options for e-Prescribing, letters, reports, lists, more.

• **HL-7 Interfaces:** New HL-7 interfaces for practice management systems.



Click [here](#) or image above for an overview of the ARRA EHR incentives for providers by Jack Smyth, CEO at Spring Medical Systems Inc.

Touch Screens, Tablet PCs and Windows® 7

Windows® 7 is the first operating system that supports touch screens from the ground up. Windows® 7 can operate as a touch system at all levels with the result being smoother and more reliable response.

Many touch screens use capacitive digitizers that work when the user disturbs an electromagnetic field on the screen's surface with a stylus pen or finger. This handles light touches and several inputs at once which means you can use complex gestures - pull your thumb and forefinger apart to enlarge an image or rotate it by pivoting your forefinger around your thumb. Some systems use infrared or optical sensors at each corner of the screen.

Windows® 7 Tablet PC improvements:

• **Handwriting Recognition.** Handwriting converted to text as you write. Smart correction provides better accuracy

• **Text Prediction for Keyboard.** On-screen keyboard has personalized word and next word prediction..



• **Speech Recognition.** Improved accuracy of Speech Recognition - you can dictate to your Tablet PC and tell it what to do or have it input text.

• **Handwritten Math Expressions.** The Math Input Panel can recognize handwritten math expressions.

Many providers prefer a Tablet PC with touch screens to use with their EHR which helps them document while maintaining contact with the patient.

Tablet PCs available include:

- [Dell Latitude XT2](#)
- [Fujitsu LifeBook T5010](#)
- [HP TouchSmart tx2z](#)
- [Lenovo ThinkPad T400s](#)
- [Motion Computing C5](#)
- [Panasonic H1](#)
- [Toshiba Portege M750-S7222](#)
- [ASUS T91](#)

Q&A Technology Tips

Health Tech TODAY

Q: I've heard Microsoft has an online healthcare technology show.

A: Microsoft's Health Tech Today, with Dr. Bill Crouse, is a monthly online series providing cutting-edge stories that involve health and healthcare information technology. The show has interviews with some of the world's top health leaders; health-related personal stories; and the latest new healthcare technology and IT innovations.

Guests and topics from Health Tech Today will run 15-20 minutes for each show. The first show aired on Nov 10th.

There will be a monthly video feature which shows how health IT is being used around the world.

Each segment can be viewed separately or you can watch the entire presentation at once. The presentations are broadcast in Silverlight, so your browser will need to have the Silverlight extension installed.

You can view Health Tech Today at:

www.healthtech2day.com

EYE ON IT Current Trends [Google Voice](#)

Google Voice allows you to select a phone number from an area code pool and configure it to ring to any or all of your phone numbers based on calling number, contact group, or time of day.

• **Features include:** Conference calling, central voice mail, blocking, auto voice-mail transcription, set greetings by caller and SMS send and receive.

• **Unique features:** The ability to switch lines in the middle of a call, as well as call screening.

Google Voice is enable for the smartphone, although Apple has not yet accepted it for the iPhone. More information can be found at: www.google.com/googlevoice/about.html.

SOFTWARE Monthly Pick [Open source healthcare software](#)

Wikipedia has a list of open source healthcare software under categories of Public Health, EHR, PHR, Practice Management System, Imaging/Visualization, MPI (Master Patient Index), Data Translation, Telemedicine, Mobile Devices, Data, and others. Interested? Visit and review their extensive list at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_open_source_healthcare_software

Onsite and offsite – Both are needed to protect your data investment.