

MediChat Newsletter

For your **Medisoft Patient Accounting Program**

August 2008

From: Integrated Health Care

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Attention Medisoft Version 14 Users

The Service Pack 1 update for Medisoft Version 14 is scheduled to be released near the end of September 2008!

EMC – EDI UPDATES (Electronic Claim Modules)

Please visit our website download page for current updates to Version 12 & 14 modules.

** New Taxonomy Utility – please see the info on our downloads page.

Looking at Electronic Medical Records? We can help- call for details!

ePrescribing

E-Rx: What are the costs?

Setup Fee: \$50.00

Monthly Fee \$50.00 (Per Provider)

Congress Passes Medicare Bill with ePrescribing Incentives

On July 15th, Congress overrode the President's veto of the bill that included

- The halt to a scheduled 10.6% Medicare physician pay cut
- Financial incentives to physicians for using electronic prescriptions

What is ePrescribing?

Use software to both generate and transmit the prescription (Rx)

Electronic receipt of, and response to, Rx refill/renewal requests

New Rx must stay in a Federally mandated digital form the entire time (NCPDP format) as it travels from the physician office through clearinghouses to the pharmacy
(Typically, the Rx is entered automatically into the pharmacy software)

What is not ePrescribing ?

- Computer-generated faxes
- Computer-generated printed prescriptions
- Scanned images
- E-mail (is not secure nor in the required format)

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Consider a few numbers...

- \$5.00 – Average cost to pull a paper chart
- \$1,944 – Average cost to a physician for prescription related callbacks and rework
- \$8.8 million – Ambulatory prescription errors annually
- \$150 million – Phone calls from pharmacies to physician offices annually for incomplete or illegible prescriptions

ePrescribing Incentives and Penalties

Medicare physicians who use e-prescribing technology will be eligible for incentive payments:

- +2% in fiscal year 2009 and 2010 (starts January, 2009)
- +1% in 2011 and 2012
- +0.5% in 2013

Physicians participating in Medicare who do not e-prescribe:

- 1% payment cut in 2012
- 1.5% payment cut in 2013
- 2% in subsequent years
- Provision exempts physicians who infrequently use prescriptions

For Electronic Health Record users:

PQRI (quality reporting) offers an additional 1.5% incentive payment (may be rising to 2%)

A Solution for ePrescribing

RelayHealth eScript

- Standalone electronic prescribing solution
- SureScripts-RxHub certified
- Provides a starting point on the path to a fully functional EHR

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