Electronic Health Records: Resources and References

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Resources and References

The essential blogs

http://thehealthcareblog.com   Authoritative, comprehensive, philosophical for health care
http://emrupdate.com
http://emrandhipaa.com   John Lynn's views are not too technical nor too happy-talk
http://onhealthtech.blogspot.com/   On health care technology - Margalit Gur-Arie
http://ehrintelligence.com   News reports, white papers.

Readings - Overviews

1. Medical Records: Paper and Electronic S. SANDY SANBAR, MD, PhD, JD, FCLM Advantages and Sections: Disadvantage of Electronic Records Standards of Record-Keeping; Ownership and Patient Access; Confidentiality and Privacy of Medical Records; Privilege and Admissibility
http://free-doc-lib.com/book/medical-records-paper-and-electronic-1.pdf

2. Three narrative descriptions (Clinical, Administrative/Financial, and Operational Features) of all of the elements of an EHR with many suggested links between them for improved care can be found at http://cocentrix.com/platform/cocentrix-ehr/. In about 10 pages you can see the big picture of what an EHR could be.

Resources on problems of EHRs

A primer on health IT risks, containing a number of key articles and links, is downloadable at http://www.ischool.drexel.edu/faculty/ssilverstein/HIT_issues_Primer.zip.

"*Contemporary Issues in Medical Informatics: Good IT, Bad IT, and Common Examples of Healthcare Information Technology Difficulties* is a 10 part series of articles on the nature and consequences of poor interface design for medical EHRs is at http://hcrenewal.blogspot.com/2009/02/are-health-it-designers-idiots-part-1.html

Guides to Selecting an EMR: Decision-support Resources (in no order)

1. *EMR Selection Toolkit*
    http://www.emrupdate.com/softwareform.aspx
7 free resources to get organized and start select practice software. Click 'Download Now' and complete a form to access them. "1. Ten Steps to Selecting Medical Software - outlines a clear process to help you construct a plan for your research. 2. Software Market Map - understand the five primary criteria that differentiate EMR systems. 3. Medical Software Feature Checklist - evaluate potential systems against 65 important evaluation criteria. 4. How to Qualify for EHR Stimulus Funds under ARRA - meaningful use and qualified EMR all wrapped-up in an easy to read guide. 5. Meaningful Use Feature Checklist - once

you understand the criteria, use this checklist to evaluate potential systems. 6. Apples-to-Apples Software Price Comparison Tool - pricing is complicated; use this guide to compare pricing on a normalized basis. 7. How to Assess Software Vendor Viability - make sure the vendor you choose is financially and strategically viable in this competitive market."

2. Web Seminars
These are free and require only registration. They can be basic and time consuming.
   http://medicaleconomics.modernmedicine.com/ehrwebseminars
   http://www.modernmedicine.com/2012ehrwebseminars

3. "Analyzing 600+ Electronic Medical Records" Rather elaborate questionnaire with good issues.
   http://www.emrconsultant.com/

4.

5. *The Top 100 Open Source Software Tools for Medical Professionals*
   http://www.ondd.org/the-top-100-open-source-software-tools-for-medical-professionals/
Recently he top 10 *open source* EMRs are: 1. FreeMED; 2. OpenEMR; 3. OpenEMR Current; 4. OpenEMR Virtual Appliance; 5. FreeB; 6. SmartCare; 7. XChart; 8. OpenMRS; 9. Open Dental Software; 10. ClearHealth

6. Capterra
   http://www.capterra.com/mental-health-software
It recently found 119 "solutions" or programs for MH. However, many are for partial functions and not EMRs. They can be filtered by Platform, User information, and about 50 Functions/features but if you use more than a few you get only a few results. Many of the programs have multiple user reviews and ratings, a feature I have not seen elsewhere. Developers pay to have their programs listed at the top of the listing as "Featured." The best use of this website may be to discover some EMRs you had missed. They also offer some free selection consultation and perhaps paid assistance as well.

7. *Selecting the Right EMR.* No date.
   http://www.emrandhipaa.com/emr-selection-book/
35 detailed pages of education. Recommended. Table of Contents: Introduction; EMR vs. EHR; Gaining EMR Implementation Buy-In: Narrowing the Field of EMR Vendors: Tools for Narrowing the Field of EMR Vendors; Details to Consider When Evaluating EMR Vendors; EMR Demos; EMR Site Visits; EMR Vendor Background Check; Selecting the EMR: Contract Negotiation: Managing Expectations; Resources

8. *Guide to implementing EHR*
   http://www.compulinkehr.com/advantage/useruploads/docs/marketing/White_Paper_NonOphthalmic/Compulink_Guide_to_Implementing_EHR_non-ophthalmic.pdf
7 Best Practicess Tips, 10 Pitfalls, 2 Timelines, and a checklist of processes, all in 12 pages. Good reading.

9. Rankings of EHRs for different specialities and kinds of organizations.
   http://www.blackbookrankings.com/healthcare/resources.php

10. *KLAS Reports.* "Accurate, honest, and impartial ratings of healthcare technology to help providers make informed decisions." Many papers and reports on and comparing EHRs but requiring membership ($500/year or completing a feedback on one's own EHR use). http://www.klasresearch.com/reports

11. *Interactive Guide for Electronic Medical Records*
   www.thedoctors.com/groups/public/documents/.../id_010891.pdf

As would be expected from an professional liability insurer this guide offers about 100 criteria primarily related to risks and needs for documentation, each to be answered "Always, Sometimes, Never" when evaluating an EHR.

12. *15 questions to ask before signing an EMR/EHR agreement*
A very practical list from the American Medical Association.
http://www.ama-assn.org/resources/doc/hit/emragreement.pdf

13. A table comparing the hardware choices for an EHR from the AMA
http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/472/asp-saas-client-compare.pdf

14. "*The Certified Health IT Product List* (CHPL) provides the authoritative, comprehensive listing of Complete Electronic Health Records (EHRs) and EHR Modules that have been tested and certified under the ONC HIT Certification Program, maintained by The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC)."
http://oncchpl.force.com/ehrcert

15. *Medical Software Buyer's Toolkit* is an extensive Excel spreadsheet of features to be considered. Strongly slanted to medical practices and the legal aspects it can be helpful for some settings. Download it from this page: http://www.softwareadvice.com/medical/electronic-medical-record-software-comparison/

16. *EMR Consultant* (http://www.emrconsultant.com) is a free website that analyzes 200+ EMR vendors against a clinical profile to make EMR vendor recommendations. Run by a doctor who really wants to help doctors select the right EMR. Not perfect, but a good tool for narrowing down your EMR selection.

17. *EHRSelctor* requires entering a lot of data to select, side by side comparisons with Compare EHR tool at: http://ehrselector.com/EMRToolkit/ASP/default.asp?

18. For those unfamiliar with the processes and steps there is a neat infographic of seven steps to buy software at: http://www.capterra.com/how-to-buy-software

19. The *Health IT Readiness Survey* is similar but addresses attitudes and may direct attention to deficits which need to be addressed before proceeding into adopting and EMR. Download it at: http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/472/hit-readiness-assessment.pdf

20. Reviews of about one page with relevant information on about 15 programs are on Rob Reinhardt website: http://www.tameyourpractice.com/blog/cloud-practice-management-system-reviews
. Very current list and reviews. Thank you, Rob Reinhardt

21. *10 Simple Steps to Finding Your Practice Management System.* A very simple overview articulating the right steps. Available as a whitepaper on the NueSoft website. www.nuesoft.com/.../white-paper-choosing-practice-management-system.pdf

23. *Medical Office Software*
http://www.softwareadvice.com/medical/
An alphabetical list of about 50 programs with links to their websites and to their demos and pricing when available. "The price and demo links above are provided by Medical Software Advice an unbiased, vendor-neutral company that provides one-on-one consultation advice for those selecting an EMR. In the last year, they've helped over 6,000 practices find an EMR."

24. This is a list that I found at www.EMRUpdate.com of about 100 names.

25. A very long list of names of the product and the name of the developer: http://www.emrconsultant.com/the-emr-list

26. A very large list at: http://www.ehrscope.com/compare-ehrs/
The reviews of apparently 600+ programs allow filtering by practices speciality, size, and several technical criteria. All programs have links to their websites and demos.

27. *EMR and EHR Matrix*
http://www.emrandhipaa.com/wiki/EMR_and_EHR_Matrix
"Updated 10/22/2012. Check out this list of EMR and EHR Companies for a list of companies that will be eventually included in the matrices below. Please feel free to update or add an EHR or EMR company."
A table of about 100 programs with links to their websites, and some simple descriptors and a second table of the same programs with their platforms and operating systems (Windows, Mac, Linux, etc.)

EHRs suitable for smaller mental health practices

There are about 600 EHRs for sale. Many are for clinic and health center size operations, most are for multi-physician or multi-disciplinary, government-supported centers. Those below are for solo and small practices which need to bill insurance, meet records' regulations, and are of low cost. Most programs that do not indicate MH specialties are excluded although they might well work for MH clinicians with probable extensive modifications. This list is alphabetical by the name of the program not the developer because we cannot recommend the best programs for your setting. It is likely not complete but is perhaps 95% of what are available in May 2015. All offer trial versions. Unless noted they all perform the basic functions of record making, billing, and scheduling.

Name of EHR	Unique features
Acrendo.com	"several dozen templates designed specifically for Psychiatry EMR." "access Clinical Reminders and Patient Education with just a few clicks."
AmazingCharts.com	"Very usable." Also for C&A Medicine. Many templates from 3500 users-quality varies. Allows narratives as well as check boxes(?). Meaningful Use Wizard. Not for Mac. Server based. $2k/provider +$ik/year.
Argonautsoftware.com	Free-form notes for Treatment Plans and Progress Notes but no integrated data or electronic claims filing." Client portal. Psychotherapy Notes *and* Progress Notes. Credit cards. $80/mo.
AutomatedMedicalAssistant.com	Mac, iPad. Android. Easy to customize. All functions. SaaS. $40/mo.
CareCloud.com	Suite of services which can implemented sequentially. Online. Patient portal. $500/mo for all functions or percent of collections.
clinicsource.com	Many options for clinical records with goals, etc. Manages payroll for therapists. On mobile devices. Online and server models. $90/mo. Electronic billing $50/mo. with 3 clearinghouses.

CompulinkAdvantage.com	All functions. Automated CPT/E&M recommendations and posting. Voice, touch screen, tablet and iPad™ data entry. PQRS coding help and automated compliance reporting. Excellent booklet on selecting and EMR available there.
Counsol.com	Full featured. Client portal. Group therapy scheduling and notes. $30/mo and $20/mo more for encrypted Online chat and video sessions. No electronic billing.
Docutracinc.com	*QuicDoc* for records and *Office Therapy* for billing. Very fully featured. Several versions. Appointment reminders. EMDR notes. Long-established vendor.
drchrono.com	All iPad. Dictation. Billing, records, personal health record, mobile check in. Client filled forms. Scheduling. FREE.
Empathic.com	Notes, billing, networking with therapists. Suggests diagnoses. Inflexible forms. $100/mo.
CarePaths.com	*eRecord* has very complete and well integrated functions. "… improve your clinical effectiveness via a library of robust clinical tools and instruments." (Live) Personal Assistant service available. Client portal. Web-based. $30/mo. and up. Long-established program.
Helper.com	Was "TherapistHelper." OffersCE courses. Windows. $600 single provider. Some mobile functions. Long-established program with many ownership changes.
ICANotes.com	Easily creates very flowing notes with just clicks. Automatically codes for most profitable CPT codes. FileMaker Pro application operating on the web but with complexities. Mobile devices. Unlimited support. Long-established program.
Kareo.com	Ad-supported FREE program. Very medical and not meshed with mental health.
MHPOffice.com	No client portal but all other functions. Easy forms design. $50/mo.
MyClientsPlus.com	Simple notes and scheduling. Many templates. $20/mo with Credit Card processing + $10 for portal + $8 for appointment reminders + $15 for client portal = $53/mo.
OfficeAlly.com	*Practice Mate* (billing, free, called a PM), *Patient Ally* (portal and Personal Health Record, free), *EHR24/7* (EHR not aimed at MH clinicians), *Office Ally* (free claims submission), *Reminder Mate*. They do charge for some billing services.
PM2.com	*PM/2* is a Windows program for billing and records with a Clinical Planner. Multiple languages. $600. Long-established program.
PMA2000.com	*PMA2012* is a Windows program for billing, records, and scheduling. Long-established program.
PracticeFusion.com	Ad-supported FREE program. No templates. iPad version. Messaging. Patient Health Record. Billing is $150/mo.
PracticeMagic.com	Uses an "calendar of appointments page' as core interface which links to payment records and produces bank deposit slips. Windows and Mac up to Lion. $120 without billing. $150 for 3 years then $40/yr or $200 with free updates. 100 page manual is online. Long-established vendor.

PracticeProTherapy.com for	All mobile platforms as well as Win and Mac. Many unusual functions for practice management, Versions for solo and Group practices at $69 and $99/mo and version rehab and treatment facilities.
PracticeSuite.com	Very complete billing and collecting functions, scheduling, and SOAP note format. $Free. $15/mo for electronic claims submission.
Praxisemr.com and yond	Note making using a different approach. "Concept Processor" presents similar cases learns from the modifications made to the case record for the next similar patient presentation. Uses "concepts" not diagnoses. Needs to be trained but goes well be-case notes. iPad. Windows server and client. Not MH specific.
Procentive.com	All functions nicely displayed and a "Workflow engine" to assure task completion. Mobile.
Mdansby.com	*PsychReport* does reports, simple scheduling, simple pt. registration, session notes, progress notes and psychotherapy notes. medical data, simple billing (CMS-1500 forms, statements) and many more functions. Mac/Win. adults and children. $200 and up. An international company.
Psycquel.com	Very complete billing and collections management, simple to use, for only MH. No charge for self-pay clients' statements. Web-based. Includes some kinds of client records screens. No other info on website.
SoSSoft.com	*SOS Case Manager* ($545 and up) for records, *SOS Office Manager* ($2200 and up) for billing, accounting and reports, Electronic Claims ($435 and up), *SOS Appointment Scheduler* ($219 and up), *SOS First Contact* collects all intake info. Long-established vendor with very well implemented programs. Windows. Might be the Gold Standard.
Beaverlog.com EZ	*The Therapist Pro* ($900) for billing and office management. All Windows. *Therapist* ($800) has fewer features, and there is an even simpler program *Aeris Basic*. *Case Manager*($250) for clinical records (treatment plans, progress notes, group notes, etc.) . Long-established vendor.
TheraBill.com	Client portal. Extensive customization of clinical notes and database. Easy backup. Fax services. Appointment reminders. Small practices $30-70/mo and group from $120/mo including all Electronic Claims costs. Cloud-based
TheraManager.com	For solo and group practices. Cloud hosted or server. Very complete system. No prices on website.
TherapyAppointment.com	Very complete and integrated. Electronic billing, client portal, secure client email. Notes are not too extensive but usually fine. Online. $58/mo.
TherapyCharts.com	No electronic billing, no portal. Group therapy notes. Treatment plans from TheraScribe integration into records. $80/mo + $ for billing. Online.
TherapyNotes.com	All usual functions. To-do lists. Dragon dictation integration for Win or Mac. Cloud-based. Mobile app, syncs. PQRS support. $60/mo, electronic claims at .19 each, appointment reminders at .19 each. Online 8 minute demo.
onlineriversoftware.com/TherapySOFT/	The *TherapySoft Business Management Software* has most features. Windows and Mac. Network and Lite versions. SOAP Notes $100. Claims $30/mo. Website $10/mo. Mobile dictation. Credit card readers $50. SaaS. 30 min. online demo. This appears to be a multiple-module general business program with a number of specialty options for clinicians.

Billing Programs
Paid programs - client/server and online

ShrinkRapt   Saner Software, Inc.   www.shrinkrapt.com
Primarily complete billing with simple notes, scheduler, Electronic Claims Submission. Mac and Win. Starting at $585. Long established program.

QuickPractice   PracticePRO Software Systems   QuickPractice.com
Billing scheduling, reports, but not clinical records. Windows only. $600 and up.

Practice Magic   Practice Magic Software/Cornucopia Software   www.practicemagic.com
Very well developed program. Easy to use. Windows and pre-Lion Macs. Starting at $130. Long established program.

EZClaim   EZClaim.com
Billing and scheduling only. EDI, remote access. "Cloud based access starting at $49/mo." Desktop versions starting at $400. Long established program.

TherapyPartner   http://www.therapypartner.com/
Online. Prices from $30 to 60/month with decreasing percentages from 5% to 3.75%.

Billshrinkers   http://www.billshrinkers.com/
Long established program.

PsychBiller, LLC   www.psychbiller.com
Long list of payers's forms- excellent. Long established program.

PsyQuel   Psycquel.com
Free program. Very complete billing and collections for only MH. No charge for self-pay client. Web-based. Includes some kinds of client records screens. No other info on website.

Good for understanding billing programs

http://www.tameyourpractice.com/blog/cloud-practice-management-system-features-billing

Cloud Practice Management System Features - Billing