



The Case for EMRs (and Strategies for their Acquisition)

Clinical Decision Support – Shared Decision Making

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Studies

December 2, 2005

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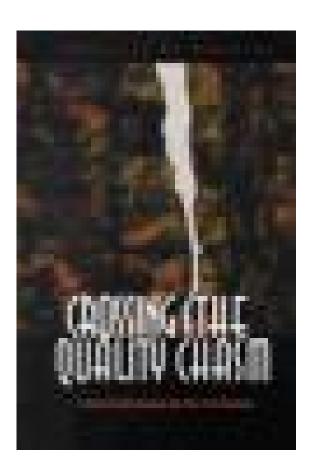
MedStar Health



- The case for the electronic medical record (EMR)
- The evolving business case for EMRs
- Acquisition strategies for having EMR purchase (and use) support healthcare transformation



- Informational medicine is suffering
 - Suboptimal quality
 - Too many errors





...is growing deeper and wider

New definition of quality includes

- Decreasing unwanted variability
- Decreasing the time from "benchto-bedside"
- Increasing (or perhaps resuming) care coordination
- Reducing / eliminating disparities in care
- Proactive population and disease management
- Shifting focus from episodic to longitudinal care
- Making health information more mobile and shareable
- Increasing involvement of the patient
- Acknowledging the necessity of reporting / transparency
- Efficiency measures
- Patient satisfaction





And what was once considered good care...

- Reactive episodic visits
- "Top-of-mind" decisions
- Paper-based ad hoc prescribing
- Non-interactive documentation
- No news = good news



...is no longer

- Reactive episodic visits
- "Top-of-mind" decisions
- Paper-based ad hoc prescribing
- Non-interactive documentation
- No news = good news

- Reactive and proactive care
- Embedded CDSS / guidelines
- Knowledge-based medication management (eRx)
- Interactive documentation
- Orders loop management

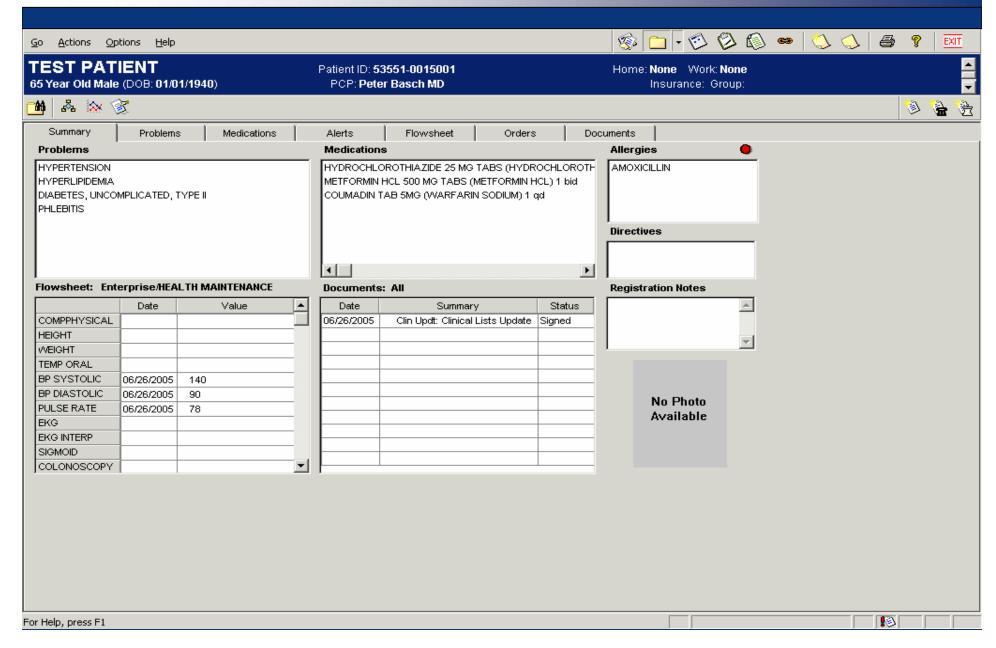


Particularly when

- Caring for patients with
 - Chronic disease
 - Multiple disorders
- Attempting to follow complex guidelines in a time-efficient manner
- Coordinating complex medication regimens
- Collecting / reporting quality data to Medicare, QIOs, payers
- Participating in pay-for-performance pilots / programs



EMR – the point-of-care solution



	Information analysis	Information exchange	Personal health management	Enterprise	Ambulatory care
Across organizations		LMR EHR PHR	PHMT		
Within one organization				Direct C	EMR are Tools



The business case for EMRs...

- Upfront costs / clinician = ~ \$20,000 \$40,000
 - Hardware
 - Software
 - Networking
- Annual support / maintenance costs = ~\$3,000 \$8,000
- Benefit per clinician per year highly variable
- Net at year 3 = ~-\$20,000 ~+\$34,000
- Variables in achieving benefits
 - Software pricing
 - Cost of risk
 - Cost of connectivity
 - Pre-EMR conditions
 - Staffing ratios
 - Use of transcription
 - ▶ Average E/M coding level
 - Cost per chart pull?
 - Additional revenue from P4P efforts



...is improving

Barrier	Solution	Current Work	
Confusion about quality of application	EMR product certification	Certification Commission on HIT (CCHIT)	
Not knowing which EMR is best for which type of practice	Trusted specialty-specific EMR guidance	Medical specialty societies; KLAS, HIMSS, others	
Wide variability in contracting and business practices	Standard contracting language, RFP guidance	eHealth Initiative	
Risk of implementation failure	Trusted technical advice	DOQ-IT	
Difficult and expensive access to external information	Standards-based solutions for labs, imaging centers, etc	California Health Care Foundation (eLINCS)	



Acquisition Strategies - #1

- Decrease risks of bad purchase
 - CCHIT certification likely
 - Advice from medical specialty societies, colleagues
 - Careful review of purchase / lease contract
- Decrease initial and ongoing costs
 - Group purchasing
 - ASP model?
- Maximize benefits of implementation
 - Include sufficient time / clinician in purchase
 - Focus on practice efficiencies, not just learning software
- While EMRs <u>can</u> make care better...

There is little evidence that they have (thus far)!



Before you buy...

- Why?
 - Culture?
 - Right tool?
 - Training?
 - Reimbursement?
- Toxic reimbursement system
 - Only financial incentives are for visit volume
 - Improving care = ↑ cost to clinicians / ↑ benefit to payers
- Having a sustainable business case for information management and quality (such as Section 646)
 - Creates a market for advanced EMRs
 Bundled with the right tools (and the drafting of some not yet in existence)
 - And training
 - And performance



Acquisition Strategy – Create a compelling vision







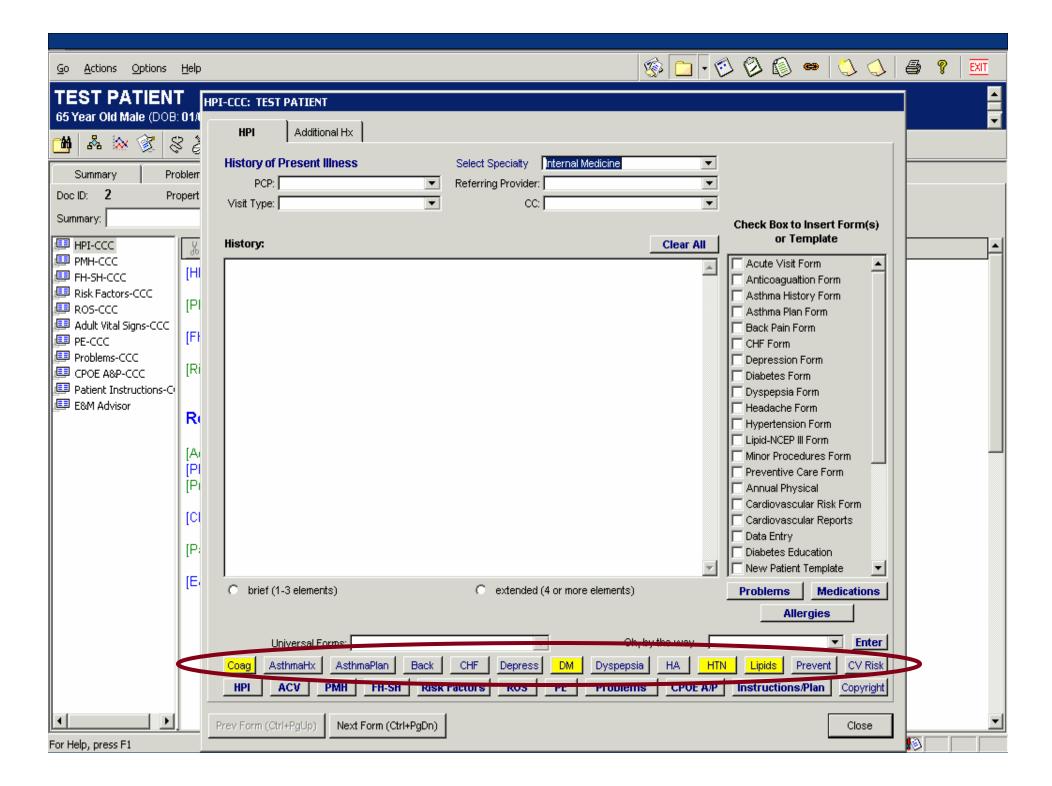
The EMR as enabler of healthcare transformation

- Informing practice
- **■** Transforming practice



Informing practice

- Most care is now reactive / episodic
- Including more <u>proactive</u> care in reactive visits

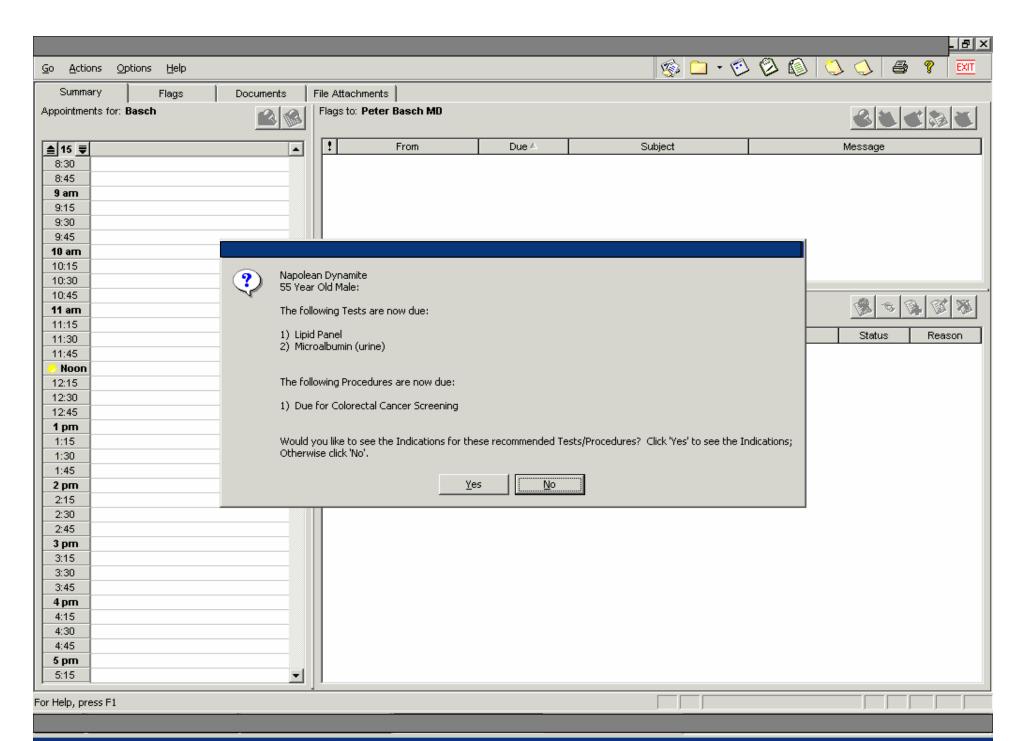




Informing practice

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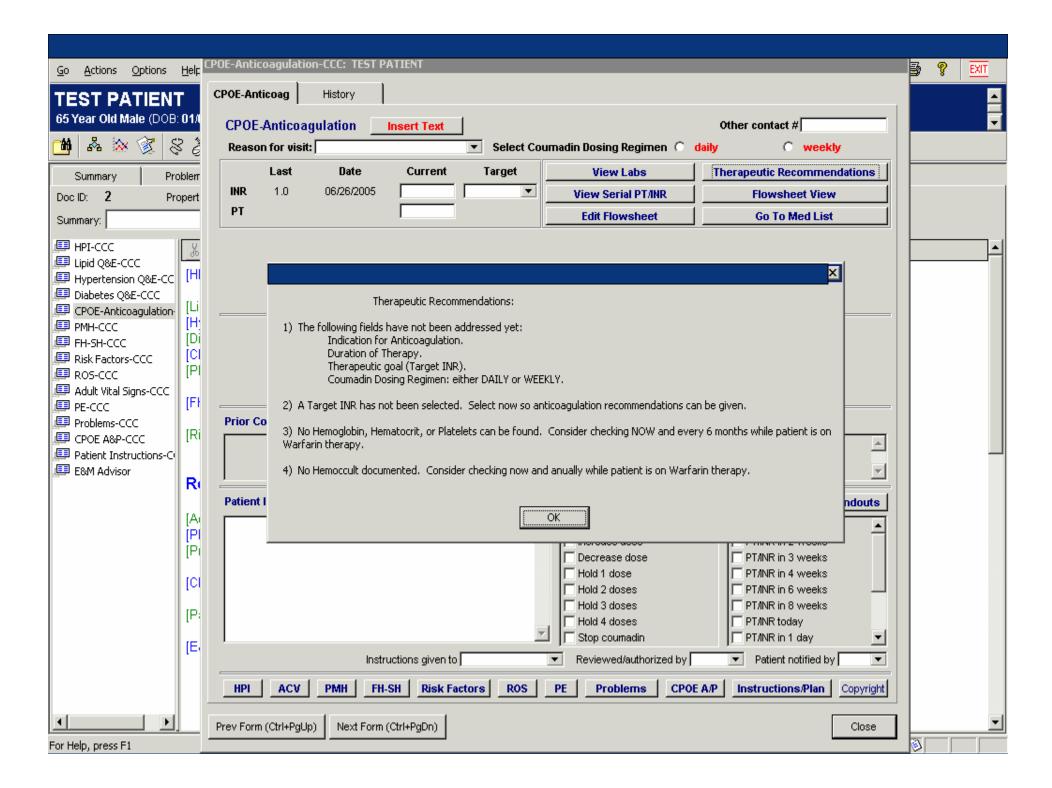
Or even in the process of scheduling visits

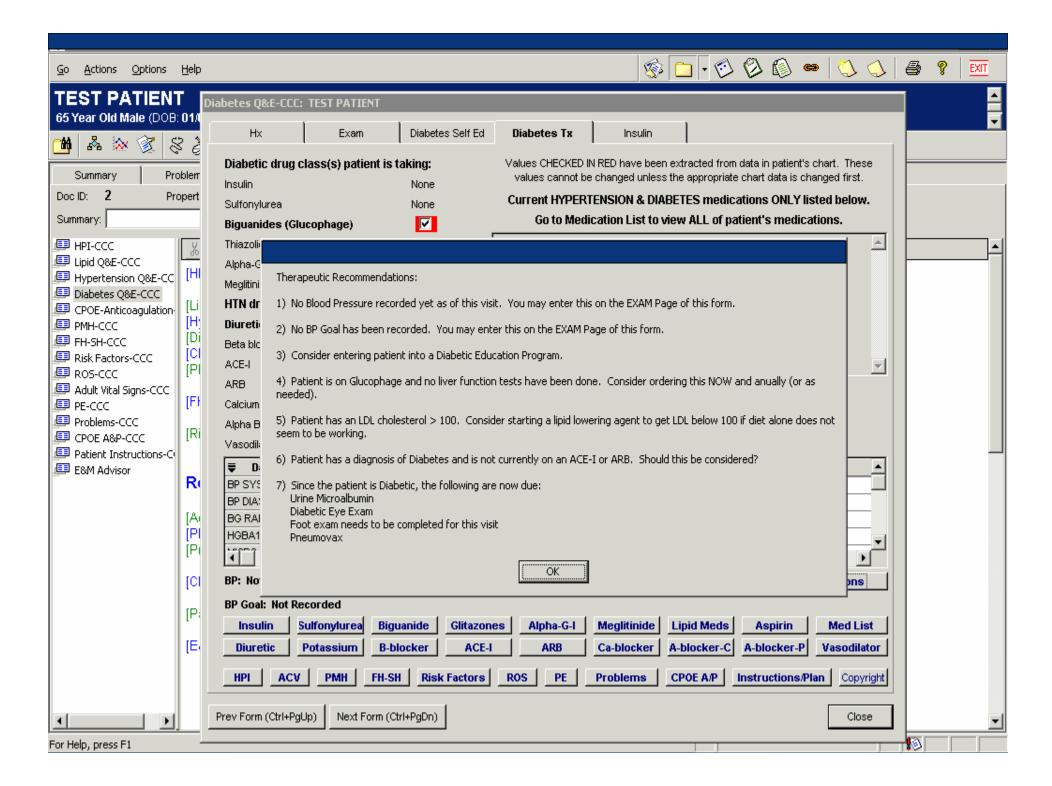




Informing practice

- Most care is now reactive / episodic
- Including more <u>proactive</u> care in reactive visits
- All visits can include optimization of concurrent and chronic care management, as well as necessary preventative care





Transforming practice – Achieving 'STEEEP' care

Different / additional software

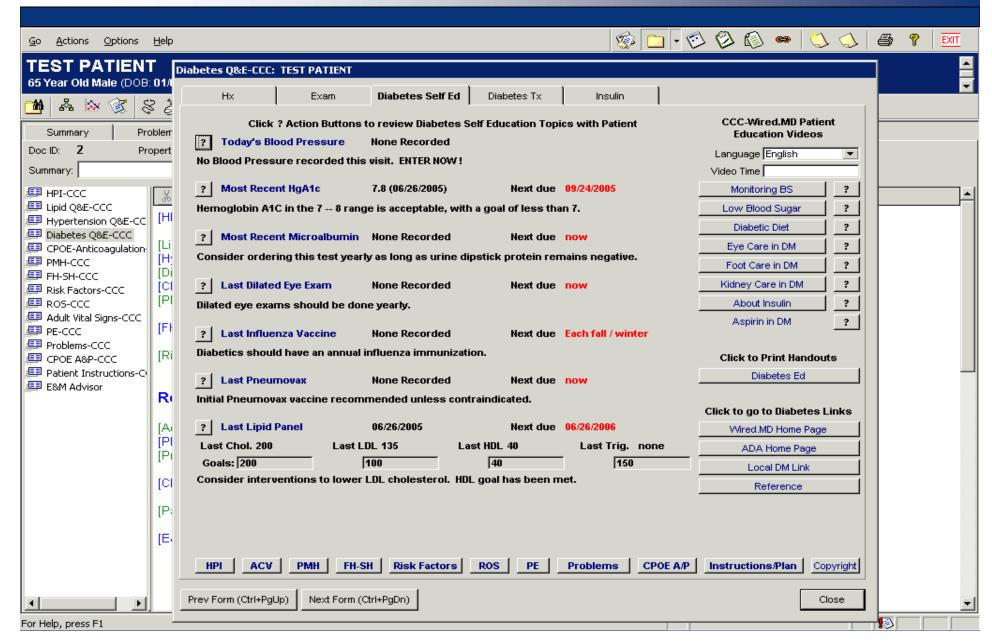
- Advanced granular / actionable decision support
- Registry
- Patient connectivity
 - Secure portal / tethered PHR
 - Can write to / read from PHR

Practice redesign

- Evidence-based preventative services
- Proactive care for select chronic diseases
- Improved care coordination
- Enabling collaborative care with patient
- New definition of 'reactive' care
 - Patient satisfaction
 - Recent hospital discharges
 - Most difficult / expensive

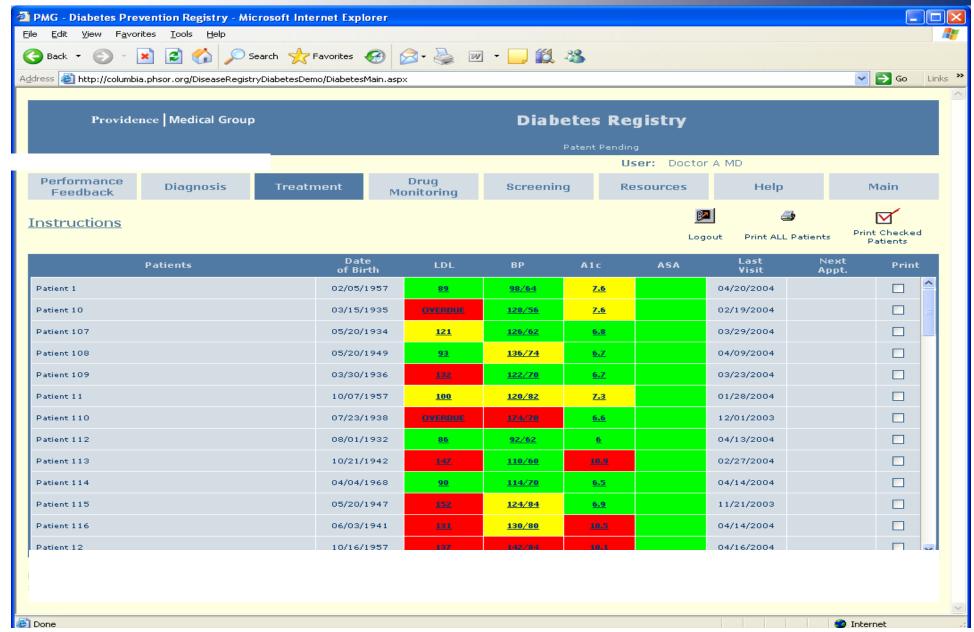


Sharing decision support with patients



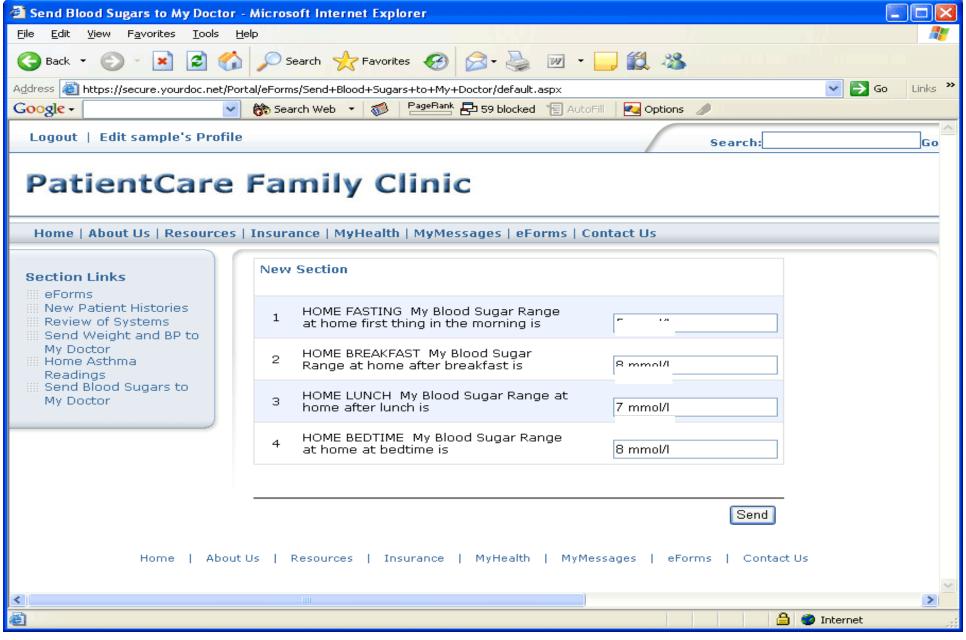


Adding a DM registry





Integrating eCare



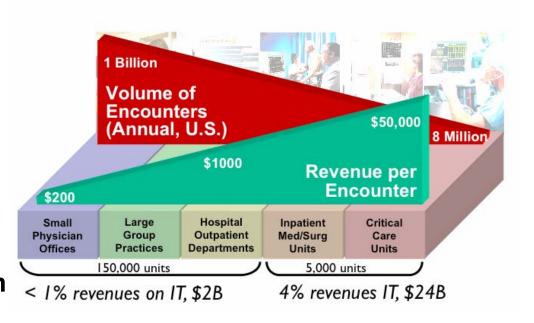


- Embedded granular / actionable decision support
 - Reactive care (both definitions)
 - Proactive care
 - Chronic care management
 - Shared care
- Knowledge-based medication management
- Robust orders loop management
- Enabling collaborative care with patient
- Performance measurement
 - Measures and aggregates select structured elements
 - Readily able to share reports with others PRN



Remember small practices

- > 50% of all healthcare expenditures in the US on ambulatory care (rate of increase is greater for outpatient than inpatient services)
- ~80% of the nearly 1 billion annual outpatient visits take place in practices of 10 or fewer clinicians (and ~50% in practices with fewer than 5 clinicians)





- EMRs are an essential element of achieving 'STEEEP' care
 - EMRs and HIE are enablers of effective / efficient process change – <u>not</u> the end-result or vision
- Having a sustainable business case for robust information management and quality
 - Makes advanced EMR purchase a wise investment
 - Makes it more likely that the EMR will be used to support system level change / transformation
- Acquisition strategies
 - #1 Decrease risks & costs; maximize returns
 - #2 Purchase EMRs that support compelling vision