



CIO Newsletter

October 2005



This is the third edition of a monthly broadcast email to the CRIS user community about CRIS capabilities and issues. In addition to the text version in this email, I've attached a version that you can print out. I look forward to receiving your comments or suggestions at CIOnewsletter@cc.nih.

Topics of the Month

- CRIS Town Meeting – Nov 2, Wednesday 2-3pm in Lippsett Auditorium
- CRIS Upgrade – The system will gain many new capabilities
- CRIS Upgrade Training – register for classes or complete CBT for clinical documentation
- Discontinuation of Printed Order Requisitions
- Change to Requisitions that do Print
- Printing Order Requisitions on Demand
- New Scheduling System
- Upgrade to the Laboratory Information System

CRIS Upgrade

Go Live for the CRIS upgrade is Nov 12, 2005, Saturday evening. CRIS will be unavailable for about 20 hours starting around 1am Saturday. We are working with clinicians to make sure that all the information you need to care for your patients during this time is available to you.

One of the new features of the upgraded CRIS system will be the Clinical Summary tab. This tab brings up a single view that combines textual and graphical information from several sections of the chart. The information is displayed in tiles, or grids. Pulling this information into one view allows clinicians to rapidly see recent significant data in one place. During the upgrade, we will be creating several different combinations of tiles that can be selected from a drop down menu. Information included will be Allergies, Significant Events, Current Intake and Output, Current Vital Signs, Documentation and Recent lab Results. "A picture is worth a thousand words" - so please come to the next CRIS town meeting.

CRIS Upgrade Training

On-line registration for CRIS Update training on clinical documentation will continue through November 18. Registration is available on line at <http://cris.cc.nih.gov> Anyone who uses the system to directly enter clinical documentation should take this course. A CBT for clinical documentation is also available at <http://cris.cc.nih.gov/public/crstraining/CBT/CUT/>

Discontinuation of Printed Order Requisitions

Until recently we followed the MIS model of using printed requisitions to alert clinical staff that new orders were placed. As most of you know, this led to unnecessary printing on the patient care floors and in the clinics. We have moved to using a flag on each user's patient list to alert that user

to new orders, and have begun decreasing the requisitions that we print on the floors. Our goal is to only print those requisitions that are used for recording data, such as requisitions for research labs and pharmacokinetics, or that are needed to support clinical workflow. In addition to the certain lab requisitions, all anatomic pathology requisitions will continue to print (anatomic pathology specimens currently don't use specimen labels), as well as pharmacy requisitions for TPN, chemotherapy, insulin drips, PCA pumps, IV investigational drugs, and controlled substance take-home prescriptions. For questions or concerns about specific requisitions, please call the CRIS Support Center at (301) 496-8400.

Changes to Requisitions that DO Print

The requisitions that do print will look different. We have created a standard requisition form that better reflects the original order.

Printing Order Requisitions on Demand

The last change in the requisition printing process is the ability to print or reprint order requisitions on demand. Instructions for using this capability will shortly be posted on the CRIS web site, <http://cris.cc.nih.gov>.

New Scheduling System

As a part of the overall CRIS project, we will be introducing a new scheduling application to replace our outdated CAS scheduling system. The new system will continue to provide scheduling services for all of our clinics and day hospitals, while introducing a modern platform allowing us to modify the application much more easily and quickly. In addition, greatly expanded functionality will allow us to embed instructions to patients, track no-shows with increased accuracy, allow providers direct access to their schedules and provide a link to scheduling from within CRIS. The new system will be turned on in mid-December.

Upgrade to the Laboratory Information System

Tomorrow, October 22nd, the Departments of Laboratory Medicine, Transfusion Medicine, and Anatomic Pathology will be implementing a major upgrade to their internal information system. While this upgrade will not affect most users, you will not be able to enter lab orders through CRIS from approximately 10 AM Saturday morning until 8 PM Saturday night. Please follow standard downtime procedures for lab specimens during this time.