

BRIGHT IDEAS


Quick tips you can use today

12 points for successful EHR implementation



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Follow these guidelines to make your transition to EHRs a success:

1. Evaluate your financial position and create a financial plan. Make sure you understand your practice's tolerance for debt.
2. Set up an internal payment schedule and determine your go-live date by how much time you will need to prepare financially. Remember, the financial plan may have a longer time-frame than the training plan.
3. Look at overall benefits in a big picture, be realistic with the practice owners on implementation and focus on the end results and cost savings.
4. Ensure that all physician leaders are on board. They may have reservations but must commit to the process.
5. Put the right people in project leadership positions. Base your decisions on basic knowledge, an interest in the project, a desire to learn and grow, a positive attitude toward change and an ability to communicate and work well with others.
6. Provide resources and time. Make sure your staff members have the training, hardware, space and support they need.
7. Focus on small successes first. For example, implementation of an e-prescribing module is a small success. The clinical advantages are apparent and it provides a positive start to a major change in work flow.
8. Don't overreact to problems. Practice leaders must eliminate "always" and "never" from their vocabulary.
9. Don't implement other major changes at the same time. Clear the decks before EHR implementation.
10. Remind leaders to stay visible during the first two weeks of EHR implementation.
11. Focus on training a core group well in advance of staff. Make sure staff training is consistent and that staff leaders are available. Encourage and allow time for practicing on the system before the go-live date.
12. Have fun with the project! This is a new way of doing work. 

join the discussion: What are your tips for easy EHR implementation? Tell us online at mgma.com/connexioncommunity or email mgma@connexion.com

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