

Allscripts Enterprise EHR (formerly TouchWorks® EHR)

Criteria for Selecting an EHR

AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY

This is an unparalleled time in our history as President Obama and members of the United States Congress have taken swift, definitive action to change the landscape of the American healthcare system with passage of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act. Organizations everywhere are looking to quickly identify and select the right EHR solution so they are well positioned to take full advantage of the incentives that are part of this groundbreaking legislation.

NOT ALL EHRS ARE THE SAME

However, not all EHR systems are created equal. Some assume that because the leading solutions are CCHIT-certified that they are the same. This is simply not the case and key differences between EHR systems could be the difference between limited usage and meaningful utilization.

The HITECH Act emphasizes and rewards utilization. Years of experience has taught us that there are seven key criteria an EHR must meet to ensure meaningful utilization.

THE KEY CRITERIA TO UTILIZATION

Criteria	Allscripts	Other Vendors
<p>1. STRUCTURED DATA</p> <p>One of the driving goals of the legislation is to create an increasingly connected healthcare system. This means the ability to share data across the care continuum is more important than ever. Accordingly, structured data standards are also as critically important. The government has been strongly advocating the SNOMED data standard. Given this, it's critical that an organization looks for an EHR that uses structured data like Medcin, etc. that directly maps to SNOMED. Proprietary data standards are simply not enough to ensure current and future compliance.</p>	✓	?
<p>2. PROVEN USABILITY / UTILIZATION</p> <p>One of the driving goals of the legislation is to create an increasingly connected healthcare system. This means the ability to share data across the care continuum is more important than ever. Accordingly, structured data standards are also as critically important. The government has been strongly advocating the SNOMED data standard. Given this, it's critical that an organization looks for an EHR that uses structured data like Medcin, etc. that directly maps to SNOMED. Proprietary data standards are simply not enough to ensure current and future compliance.</p>	✓	?
<p>3. PROVEN ROI</p> <p>The incentives possible through the HITECH Act are compelling, but an EHR purchase offers opportunities for return on investment (ROI) well beyond payments in 2011 - 2014. Instead, the EHR solution needs to have proven immediate and long-term ROI to be the right choice.</p>	✓	?

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Criteria (Continued)	Allscripts	Other Vendors
<p>4. INTERFACES AND INTEROPERABILITY</p> <p>Because the long term vision of the administration is an interconnected healthcare system, an organization needs to carefully analyze the interoperability of any EHR. The EHR needs to demonstrate a history of interoperability as evidenced by national Connect-a-Thon events. In addition, the evaluating organization needs to consider the number of HL7 interfaces that currently exist from the EHR to other HIT systems, applications, devices, etc.</p>	✓	?
<p>5. DISEASE, POPULATION AND OUTCOME MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES</p> <p>Like previous pay for performance (P4P) measures in the past, the current legislation is primarily designed to improve patient care. Effective disease, population and outcomes management will all be increasingly important in the future. Organizations need to look for an EHR with built-in capabilities to easily enable consistency and continuity of care.</p>	✓	?
<p>6. SPECIALTY-SPECIFIC CONTENT</p> <p>To drive utilization across a multi-specialty organization, it is critical that there is specialty-specific content to meet the unique needs of different specialties. To maximize the available incentives, it will be critical that utilization is uniformly high across an entire organization.</p>	✓	?
<p>7. REPORTING AND RESEARCH TOOLS</p> <p>With a strong emphasis on utilization, the reporting necessary to demonstrate that utilization is equally critical. Organizations need to look for an EHR with robust reporting and research capabilities to enable accurate reporting on the HITECH requirements and those that may come in the future.</p>	✓	?

Allscripts Enterprise EHR meets all of these criteria. To learn more about how, contact Allscripts at: 800-334-8534 x 91225 or www.allscripts.com/enterprisestimulus