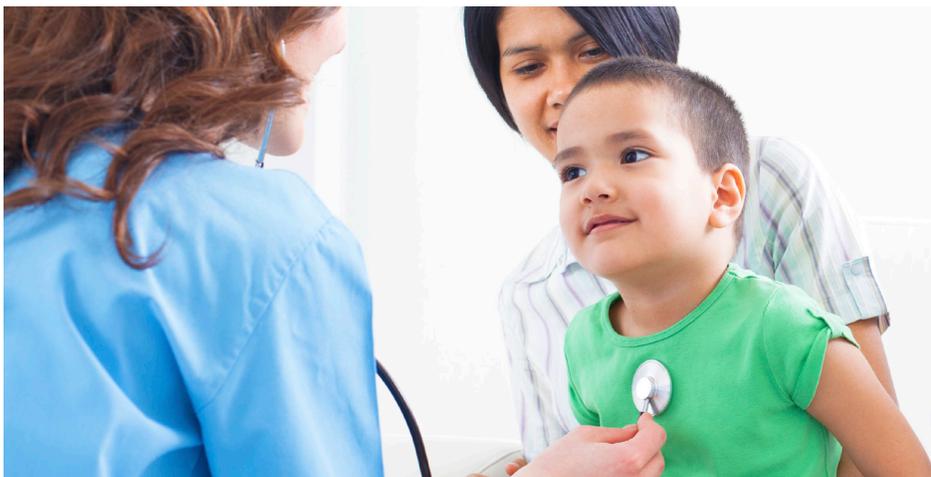# Making the most efficient use of clinical data

The Pediatric Clinic LLC is a physician-owned medical clinic serving infants, children and adolescents in east central Alabama and western Georgia. It is always in search of flexible, data-driven solutions to enable the best possible patient care, meet regulatory requirements and improve efficiencies. Using the Professional EHR platform as its core solution, it has incorporated terminology solutions from IMO for cleaner, more accurate and relevant data.

Better data enables better clinical and operational decisions

The clinic selected Professional EHR, Practice Management and Payerpath in 2010. "We'd been looking for a solution that would help us take care of children and do all the things we need to do, but not slow us down," Pediatrician Lisa Young, MD, FAAP, said. "Professional EHR was the right solution for us."

The practice uses data from Professional EHR reports to make better clinical and operational decisions. For example, to improve vaccination compliance the clinic runs a report to identify 11-year-old patients that haven't gotten their tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine, which is required to enter sixth grade.

Before Allscripts, the clinic would receive most calls in late July and August, causing a backlog and challenge to see every child before the start of the school year. "By running that report early in the year, we can get kids to come out all throughout the summer and reduce wait times," Practice Manager Jerry Haynes said.

Haynes continued, "The functionality and the data have helped us make much better decisions operationally, not to mention clinically…We've been able to debunk several myths about our patients by being able to pull specific data."

Client Profile

Pediatric Clinic LLC

Opelika, Alabama, U.S.A.

OVERVIEW

- Physician-led pediatric practice
- 25,000 unique patients
- 70,000 visits annually
- 14 physicians, 2 mid-level providers
- 2 locations
- Patient-centered Medical Home (PCMH) Level 1

ALLSCRIPTS SOLUTIONS

- Allscripts Professional EHR™
- Allscripts Practice Management™
- Allscripts Payerpath™
- FollowMyHealth®
- Intelligent Medical Objects (IMO)
  - Clean Up Your Data (CUYD)
  - Clinical Categories

Improved clinical accuracy
Clinicians can search for terms the way they speak and know it is mapped to the correct codes

Optimized reimbursement
Accurate codes enable better reporting for value-based initiatives, such as MACRA and MIPS

Increased efficiency
Easier search options reduce frustration for clinicians, while cleaner data saves time for billers and coders

Allscripts®

For example, before Professional EHR, the assumption was that most patients arrived at the walk-in clinic in the 30 minutes prior to closing. According to Haynes, data from Professional EHR shows that's not true: 80% of patients show up in the first hour. "It's enabled us to better schedule resources so we can take care of those patients," he said.

Capturing the correct codes with clinician-friendly terms

Data plays a central role in making patient-centered decisions and demonstrating performance for value-based programs, such as MACRA and MIPS. The Pediatric Clinic places a priority on capturing accurate data for more complete clinical records and optimal reimbursement.

It is a challenge for data-driven organizations to make sure that terms are clinician friendly, they are easy to search, and there is consistency and clarity in how they map to SNOMED CT® and ICD-10 codes. For example, "Heart attack with ST elevation," "ST elevation MI" and "STEMI" all refer to the same event and map to the correct SNOMED CT® and ICD-10 codes. Capturing these codes accurately is critical for reporting functions and risk-adjusted billing, which many payors are using or will use soon for reimbursements.

To improve this process and make it seamless for clinicians, the clinic uses IMO Clean Up Your Data (CUYD) with its Professional EHR. IMO CUYD service maps user-created clinical content to the appropriate standards and corrects inappropriately mapped content to the right codes.

"It helps teach people how to keep our data clean," Dr. Young said. "Our billers really like the IMO solutions. It's been a lot less work for the coders and fewer calls to clinicians on the back end."

Sorting the problem list by clinical relevance

Typical problem lists are organized alphabetically, making it difficult for clinicians to get a quick clinical snapshot of the patient. IMO Clinical Categories creates a customized problem list, based on the priorities of users, to view them in the most useful and efficient way.

With one click, clinicians can sort the problem list by clinical relevance, as well as group duplicate diagnoses in the same category. This capability makes it easier to get a feel for the patient's conditions and clean up charts by merging those duplicates.

"Our physicians probably don't realize they are using IMO's terminology tools, but they would know if they were gone," Dr. Young said. "We rely on them every day."

Intelligent Medical Objects, Inc. (IMO), is the developer of the most widely-accepted medical terminology solution for the management of medical vocabularies and software applications at healthcare organizations worldwide. IMO's terminology is used by more than 4,500 hospitals and 500,000 physicians daily, and this trusted terminology platform supports innovations by provider systems. IMO medical vocabulary and mapping products effectively capture clinical intent and help EMRs preserve and communicate this across the entire spectrum of care. IMO clinical terms are mapped to all standard coding systems including ICD-9, ICD-10, and SNOMED®.

To learn more, email insidesales@allscripts.com