Comagine Health
Formerly Qualis Health and HealthInsight

Prioritizing the Goals for Your EHR System

While all the goals listed on this worksheet are important, it can be helpful to identify the ones that are most critical to your unique practice. While sorting through many different EHR systems and features, it will help your team to be able to refer to the goals you previously agreed are the top priorities.

Rank the following goals in order of priority (1–8, with 1 being the most important).

Priority	Goals	Benefits	EHR Requirements
	Improved Patient Care	• Ability to set ticklers and generate automatic mailers to patients to remind of follow-ups and required tests • Access patients' entire medical record, including ancillary services and tests, via a central database, allowing for more thorough, comprehensive examination in shorter amount of time • Access medical reference information, drug interaction and formulary information more quickly during encounter, ensuring that patient is more educated • Send prescriptions directly to pharmacy, increasing the likelihood of patients filling and taking critical prescriptions • Improved data capture for clinical outcomes management	• Preventive and chronic care alerts/reminders • Clinical rules and alerts (see *Reduction in Medical Errors* below) • Disease registry capabilities and/or integration • Missing results reminders • Direct access to medical reference data and protocols • Patient correspondence reminders and education materials (email, paper) • Population health analysis
	Reduction in Medical Errors	Improved quality of care through: • Legible, complete documentation • Accurate E&M coding based on complete documentation • Reduced legal liability from miscoded notes • Reduced medication and treatment errors resulting from illegible orders • Improved physician standing in legal actions as a result of thorough, consistent documentation	• Clinical rules databases with alerts • E-prescribing with full interaction checks and alerts • Dosing algorithm support • Order/testing integration with clinical rules, treatment history and directives • Direct access to medical reference data and protocols

Priority	Goals	Benefits	EHR Requirements
	Improved Clinical and Operations Efficiency	• Eliminates medical record searches and "lost" charts • Reduces waiting time for access to complete patient record • Uses built-in templates to customize, automate and standardize data entry functions for your practice • Allows rapid access to reference information and formularies • Places orders and referrals with "point and click" ease • Reduces time spent retrieving and filing records • Provides complete patient history and medical records with a few keystrokes/clicks	• Strong integration with practice management data and processes • Flexible electronic interfacing for outside entities Efficient on-line charting features and tools • Custom templates and flows • "Smart" clinician preference lists that evolve through system use • Flexible input methods (e.g., voice recognition, touch screen, handwriting recognition, etc.) • Organized clinician "in-boxes" with priorities • and reminders • Direct integration with diagnostic and other clinical equipment (e.g., electrocardiogram, pulse oximetry, etc.) • On-line, direct access to web-based reference data • Intra-office messaging • Bar coding/OCR/RFID integration
	Increased Revenue	• Increased reimbursements as a result of more accurate coding and billing • Elimination of lost revenue resulting from undercoding • Better service leading to more return patients and new patients from "word of mouth" recommendations • Better data available to analyze and re-engineer problem areas • Following the initial learning curve, increased physician productivity allows for more patient visits • Electronic data flow captures meaningful use incentives and pay-for-performance revenue	• Intelligent E&M coding assistance based on charted care • Patient population service analysis to target preventive and chronic care reminders • Direct billing interface • Efficiency features (see above) that will reduce paperwork and allow more patients to be seen • Insurer rule integration (e.g., benefit limitations, authorization requirements, delivery networks) • Multiple requirements/criteria for meaningful use

Priority	Goals	Benefits	EHR Requirements
	Improved Access to Information	• Simultaneous access to the medical record by different providers and staff within the clinic • Remote access from home, hospital or other remote locations • 24-hour access (e.g., for on-call physicians, etc.) • Ability for physician to sign sections of chart electronically from any location • Easy access to, and provision of, customized patient education materials • Overall improved communication within the practice • Ability to run internal and external reports	• Remote access to full medical records • Wireless tools for greater mobility • On-line, direct access to Web-based reference data • Integration with hospital and other affiliate systems • Full email integration • Scanning integration • Report writing capability
	Reduced Costs	Reduced need for: • Storage space and supplies • Transcription services Reduce personnel required for: • Medical Record maintenance, transport and update • Charge posting • Referral coordination • Ancillary order coordination • Super bill forms	• Full medical record support (total elimination of paper chart) • Simplified charting tools for elimination of transcription • Full integration with practice management system to avoid duplicate entry of data • Bar coding/OCR/RFID integration
	Competitive Advantage	• Prints patient education and instruction • materials on command • Improves data capture and retrieval for more • effective compliance reporting • Positions your practice for future growth and site expansion • Provides improved data with which to make informed decisions about providing additional services • Provides patients with confidence that you are “keeping up with the times” • Provides improved data to generate clinical outcome enhancements	• Flexible integration with a wide range of external entities (e.g., hospitals, labs, pharmacies, etc.) • Easy data extraction and electronic submission (e.g., disease collaboratives, Medicare studies, etc.) • Pay for performance benchmark analysis • Patient data access features • Patient education and email communication abilities • Effective recall/reminder capabilities
	Other		