



EHR is Coming

Ensure IT Happens Right.

EHR TARGET DATES

- Project Funding Request submitted to DMH: April 2010
- RFP to be issued July 2010
- Contract Award November/ December 2010
- Implementation Begins-Summer 2011
- Implementation Complete - Fall 2012

Solano County has taken a big step towards implementing an EHR system for the Mental Health Division

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Technology Project request for \$2.1 million to implement an EHR system was submitted to the Department of Mental Health on April 30 as part of 2010/2011 annual Plan Update.

What will the EHR include?

The system will include applications that

- Schedule and track appointments.
- Provide templates for electronic assessments, treatment plans and progress notes.
- Provide the ability to order prescriptions electronically.
- Manage billing processes.

How will an EHR affect my job?

The new EHR system will provide tools to help each employee do their job. Almost everyone will use a computer to accomplish their daily work.

- Administrative staff will be able to schedule and manage appointments, verify insurance coverage and compute and track share of cost payments.
- Clinicians will use systems to document all interactions with their clients.
- Managers will have access to data reports to drive management decision making.
- Policies and procedures will be more standardized among clinics.



There's no way to transform the healthcare system without information technology. Today we use the same technology for recording healthcare information that Hippocrates used. It defies logic that we will be able to get the best out of health information with sheaths of paper flying around by snail mail.

*-David Blumenthal
National Coordinator
for Healthcare
Technology*

Questions?

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Will the EHR System be difficult to learn and use?

The EHR systems on the market today are relatively easy to learn and use.

You will need a basic familiarity with computer software. The County offers a variety of general computer training courses. Check with your supervisor if you feel you need basic computer training skills.

Training on the EHR system will be provided using a combination of user guides, as well as on-line and in-person courses. The EHR software will have extensive "Help" features.

If you have difficulty using a keyboard, the project staff will work with you to find a way to use the system effectively.

Why use an EHR?

- **Increased Revenue:** An EHR system provides for efficient and accurate billing and can reduce the chance of audit exceptions by checking for problems in the record.
- **Better Patient Care:** Provide a higher quality service to your patients by empowering them with their medical information at the click of a button and reduced errors through better, immediate documentation and alerts. Practitioners can spend more time with their patients and less time on documentation with the integrated EHR system.
- **Improved Productivity:** EHR software reduces the task of looking for, pulling and filing charts as well as the time it takes to re-fill prescriptions

Read all about it!

Visit the HSS Intranet site to view and provide feedback on EHR Project documents:

<http://hssweb/meetings/MHEHR/default.aspx?PageView=Shared>
