



Top 10 Practice Management Features

User Rating: / 2
 Poor Best

Friday, 09 April 2010 00:00



retweet



Practice management software offers physicians a way to streamline the office, saving both time and money. Yet, many physicians feel overwhelmed by the vast array of practice management systems and features.

Selecting the right practice management software is a daunting task. To help determine the practice's needs, Nancy Rowe, President of Practice Provider, recommends analyzing the workflow of the entire practice prior to shopping for the practice management software.

She encourages physicians to "start out with the front desk and work from there". She also stresses the importance of choosing the best IT infrastructure for the practice. "Most practices don't want to worry about hosting the software and performing daily backups" Nancy explains.

Once the workflow and IT infrastructure mapping is complete; it is time to evaluate the individual features of the practice management software.

Installation

According to Nancy, "The software is a blank slate. It is all in the set up" without proper installation and set up the practice management software will not be successful.

Before signing on for any practice management software make sure it is clear who will be setting up the software. In addition, who is responsible for maintenance and upgrades, backups, and HIPAA compliance.

Training

Once installation is complete, the focus becomes training. Is the practice management software user friendly and easy to train?

Both Nancy and Brian O' Neill, Founder of Office Ally, agree that it is critical for the front desk to be up and running first. As the primary patient contact, the more efficiently the front desk gathers data the more smoothly the whole office runs.

Ongoing support

Nancy feels ongoing support and training is critical to the overall success of the software. It is important to have someone available for retraining, technical issues and maintenance.

Flexibility & Customization

No two practices are alike, so it is important to look for practice management software that is customizable. Whether the practice is one doctor or twenty the software should accommodate it.

The schedule itself should be flexible. Look for one that accommodates any size practice and allows different appointment lengths based on specialty. The schedule for the entire practice should be viewable on one screen.

Brian believes doctors should to automate as much as they can. A good practice management software allows doctors to streamline their workflow freeing doctors to do what they do best treat patients.

Appointments & Recall

A practice management system with an automatic appointment verifier prevents lost revenue from missed appointments and unfilled time. The physician simply sets parameters such as how often and when to contact the patient and the software does the rest.

Subscribe: Newsletter RSS Feed

Ads by Google

Free EMR
 Online Electronic Medical Records
 Free and Secure.
 Fast Set Up!
www.PracticeFusion.com



[Kurt Martin](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kurt Martin is a Founder and Group Publisher of The Progressive Media Group (PMG) and the Publisher of MedTech Journal. During his 4 years as Publisher of The NonProfit Times, he grew the imprint from a single newspaper to a community of websites, online job boards, email newsletters and digital editions. Prior to taking the role of Publisher he was the East Coast Sales Manager for Broad Daylight, Inc. a knowledgebase company. He also held management roles in advertising and circulation sales at American Banker/Bond Buyer (Thomson), Faulkner & Grey (Thomson) and SourceMedia (Investcorp.) Kurt graduated from Montclair State University with a B.A. in Political Science and Public Administration.