



## Updates!

e-Newsletter by IATRIC  
Systems, Inc.

## September 2004

In this issue (click on the title to  
jump directly to the article):

- [Joel's MUSEings](#)
- [Customer Spotlight: Mobile Nursing Triumph at Silver Cross Hospital](#)
- [Keeping-up with Medicare: Medical Necessity and MNO updates](#)
- [Implementing e-MAR? Know Your Options.](#)
- [A Note on E-Signature](#)
- [NPR Report Writing Tip: LaserJet Rotated Code 128 Bar Codes \(MAGIC\)](#)
- [Subscribing/Contacting Us](#)

## 1 Joel's MUSEings

It's September, and thoughts turn to falling leaves, cooler temperatures, football and of course the fall MUSE season, which is already in progress. As usual, Iatric Systems will be one of the few vendors attending all 8 North American regional conferences this year.

This week is the Region 1 Conference in Groton, CT, and roughly 400 users are registered to attend so far. I want to encourage everyone to attend a regional conference. In case you didn't know, you can attend any regional conference you'd like. So, if you happen to be in Kelowna, BC, in November, or the San Francisco bay area in late October, feel free to attend the regional show even if you don't live there.

As always, in addition to our demonstration sessions, we'll be presenting a number of educational sessions and workshops on Attributes, Rules, and NPR (of course), just to name a few. Our NPR session this year is designed for all NPR report writers, not just the experts. We also have a new product (called "VMAR") designed to streamline your e-MAR process,

and a new wireless handheld for phlebotomists and nurses that ensures positive patient and specimen ID and manages specimen collection. Stop by the booth and we'll show you how it works!

If you're not a clinician, stop by our booth and say hello anyway. You'll find out about Medicare medical necessity regulations and how MNO is keeping up with those requirements. You'll find out how you can save your billing clerks time. You'll also see how you can avoid duplicate medical records (not just merge them after the fact).

You meet the nicest people at MUSE.

[Back to Top](#)

## 2 Customer Spotlight: Mobile Nursing Triumph at Silver Cross Hospital

Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet, IL, winner of the 2004 Hospital of Choice Award from the American Alliance of Health Care Providers (AAHCP), recently implemented PalmCare at their organization and recognized the system as a contributing factor to more efficient workflow and improved staff functionality with patient assessments. PalmCare is a wireless mobile patient care documentation system that runs on PalmOS handheld devices. It is live at hospitals across the nation and Canada, and does not require Citrix to implement.

For more information:

- [Learn more about Silver Cross' AAHCP award](#)
- [Read Silver Cross' PalmCare news release](#)
- [Learn more about PalmCare](#)
- [Contact us for more information or to schedule a demo](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## 3 Keeping Up with Medicare: Medical Necessity and MNO Updates

Did you know that Medicare statutorily excludes, regardless of diagnosis, a number of procedures and items from benefits coverage? [CMS \(Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services\)](#) lists most vaccinations, routine physicals, cosmetic surgery, and a number of other procedures and items as among these exclusions. Medicare also excludes specific diagnoses from benefits coverage, in which case **\*no\*** procedures for that visit are covered. NEMB (Notice of Exclusions from Medicare Benefits) beneficiary information forms (similar to Advanced Beneficiary Notices, or ABNs) have been created to help educate Medicare beneficiaries when these instances occur. In fact, NEMBs and **\*not\*** ABNs should be provided by your staff to affected patients in connection with these exclusions when they occur.

Is your medical necessity evaluation tool screening for these statutory exclusions, and does it allow users to print NEMBs instead of ABNs? [Medical Necessity Ordermate \(MNO\)](#) version 4.1 has been enhanced to do so, and it allows users to print NEMB forms in English as well as Spanish. Numerous other enhancements are also included in the 4.1 update. Two of the most notable are:

- **Outreach LAB Integration** - If your site has Outreach LAB enabled in the Meditech™ LAB application, please note that MNO now integrates with Outreach LAB workflow. The MNO compliance calculator can be invoked directly from Outreach LAB routines while the order is being placed. Additionally, MNO saves the evaluation results and allows those results to pass to ADM when/if the account is picked up as a registration in ADM.
- **Enhanced Workflow & Data Transfer from Scheduling to Admissions** - Avoid duplicate evaluations in ADM when an evaluation has already been completed in CWS. This MNO 4.1 enhancement allows users to view the evaluation that was completed in CWS, see the ABN status and update the status if appropriate, all at one time.

Are you a current MNO customer? If so, the 4.1 enhancements mentioned above are covered as part of your maintenance agreement. Our [MNO support staff](#) will be happy to schedule the upgrade for your facility at your convenience. If you're not currently an MNO customer, feel free to investigate MNO, which is available in both [MAGIC](#) and [Client/Server](#) versions, or [contact us](#) to learn more.

[Back to Top](#)

4

**Implementing e-MAR? Know Your Options.**

Looking for a streamlined method to document medication administration on-line? A number of our customers were and came to us for a solution. In response, we gathered a group of nurses and pharmacists together and created what our customers have dubbed "**VMAR**" - efficient medication assessment and streamlined administration documentation, all in one!

VMAR was added as an enhancement to our Visual FlowSheet (VFS) system. This summer, we hosted a series of VFS and VMAR webcasts to demonstrate the new functionality. Sessions were very well attended, and as result **we've added another set of sessions for the fall**. VFS/VMAR session dates are listed below. Please note all session times are 2:00 pm Eastern.

<b>Webcast Date</b>	<b>Day</b>
<a href="#">9/21</a>	Tuesday
<a href="#">10/7</a>	Thursday
<a href="#">10/27</a>	Wednesday
<a href="#">11/9</a>	Tuesday
<a href="#">11/17</a>	Wednesday

To register, simply click on the session date, and please be sure to include your name, phone number and hospital name. Know your e-MAR options.

The VMAR enhancement is currently available for MAGIC sites only - please [e-mail us](#) to learn more about when it will be available at Client/Server sites.

[Back to Top](#)

## 5 A Note on E-Signature

We'd like to thank everyone who responded to our "E-Signature Education" article in July's edition of Updates! We are currently still in the process of receiving and analyzing the results of the E-Signature Survey. Look for "E-Signature Education: Part II" in next month's issue.

[Back to Top](#)

## 6 NPR Report Writing Tip: LaserJet Rotated Code 128 Bar Codes (MAGIC)

The 5.4 enhancement (also available earlier if you ask) to print Code 128 bar codes is a big improvement. The codes are more compact and taller, so you can fit more information into the bar code and print them in a smaller area, and you do not need to build two computed fields and stack the bar code fields to get proper output.

When printing patient armbands via a report in landscape orientation, it would be nice to be able to rotate the Code 128 so that the bar code prints "the short way" , but the other data prints "the long way".

Unfortunately, there is no "print direction" attribute you can use to make the bar code field "turn". You can, however, send printer commands to get the bar code to print in a different direction.

Note that while the 5.4 release of C/S does have the CODE.128 enhancement, it does not seem possible to use the HP print direction escape command in C/S. So this tip is for magic only.

First, the details on how to create a "regular" Code 128 bar code field. Here we will print the account number from ADM (this does work in the latest release of C/S).

Create a computed field as follows:

```
DAT=CODE.128  
LEN=12  
VAL=@acct.number
```

To rotate this bar code, we can create a set of one character computed fields that send escape codes to the printer via the "CON" attribute to do the following:

- 1) Save the current printer position
- 2) Move to a specific row and column
- 3) Change print direction (rotate 90)  
    Then the bar code gets printed
- 4) Change print direction back (rotate 0)
- 5) Restore the printer position

The code in the CON attribute will be executed within the line as it is printed.

```
The "save" field:  
CON=D(27)_"&f0S"^^!,1  
DAT=FREE  
LEN=1  
VAL=" "
```

```
The "move" field, same as above, except:  
CON=D(27)_"&a11R"_D(27)_"&a0C"^^!,1
```

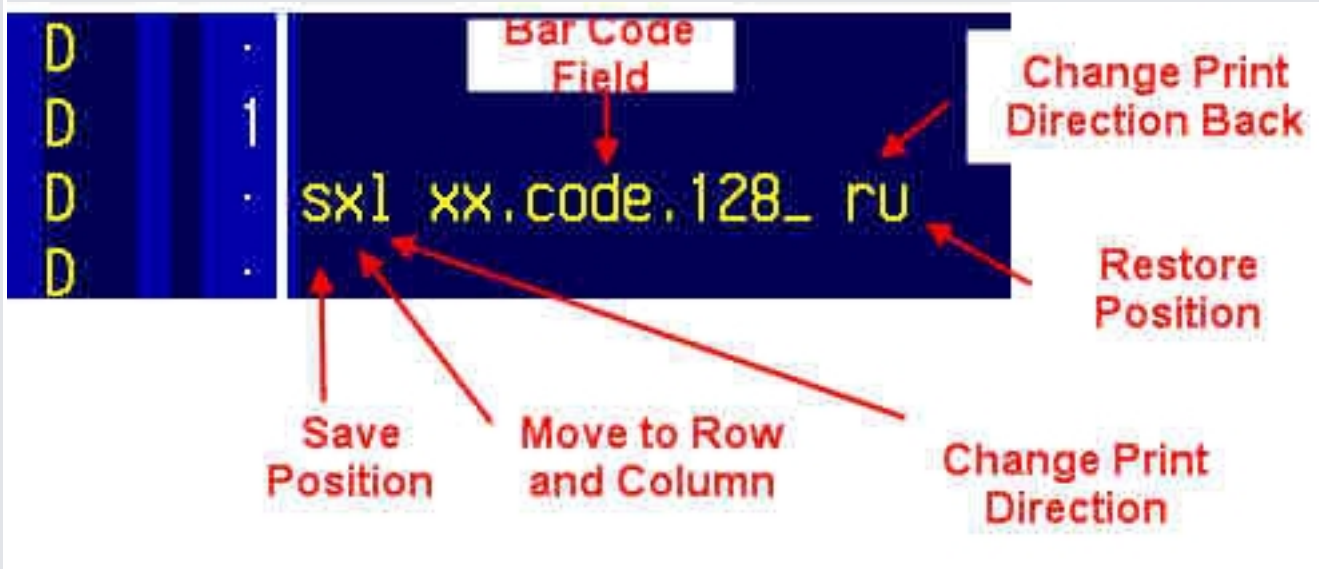
Note that the move to a particular row (the "R") and column (the "C") happens before rotation, so you can use the row and column values from the report picture to figure out what values to use. When you change print direction, the printer position does not change, but the direction of printing is rotated.

The "change direction" field:  
CON=D(27)\_"&a90P"^^!,1

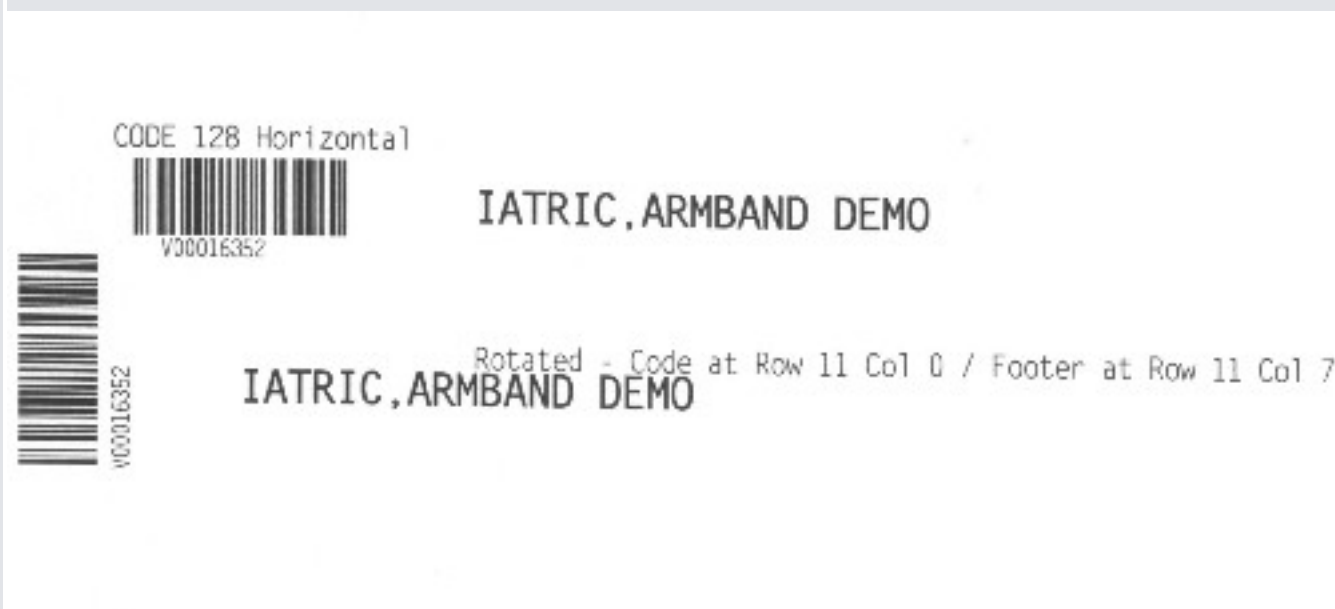
The "change back" field:  
CON=D(27)\_"&a0P"^^!,1

The "restore" field:  
CON=D(27)\_"&f1S"^^!,1

These fields are wrapped around the bar code field, which can be placed anywhere on the picture.



In the example below, a second field is added, also rotated, to print the account number under the bar code in the same rotated orientation.



Please note that our new website has information about our [on-site NPR Report Writer](#)

[Training and NPR Report Writing Services](#). You will find additional NPR tips located at <http://www.iatric.com/information/npr-tips.asp>

[Back to Top](#)

## 7 Subscribing / Contact Us

To subscribe to the **Updates! newsletter**, please press the "**Signup for our Monthly Newsletter**" box below.

Or simply visit the Southeast section of our homepage at [www.IATRIC.com](http://www.IATRIC.com)

Click Here to  
Sign-up for our  
Monthly  
Newsletter

You may always reply to this Newsletter with questions or comments. However, if you would like to contact someone directly, please feel free to contact one of the names listed below. You may also be removed from our mailing list by sending us an email request at [INFO@iatric.com](mailto:INFO@iatric.com).

Joel Berman, President, [JoelB@iatric.com](mailto:JoelB@iatric.com), 978-805-4101

John Danahey, VP, Sales and Support, [JohnD@iatric.com](mailto:JohnD@iatric.com), 978-805-4153

[Back to Top](#)

**27 Great Pond Drive, Boxford, MA 01921, USA**

**Copyright 1996-2004 Iatric Systems, Inc. -All Rights Reserved-**