



Iatric Systems

Magic and Client/Server Products and Services - NPR Report Writing



Updates! An E-Newsletter from Iatric Systems

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Holiday Greetings

The Regional MUSE Season has ended, and the holidays are already upon us. The employees at Iatric Systems would like to thank all of our customers, partners, and friends for allowing us to be a part of your Meditech solutions. We wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

Joel's MUSEings

Well, the fall MUSE conference season is over. It was a shorter season than usual due to the two combined conferences in Louisville and Reno. The good news is that all the conferences were well attended. In fact, Arthur Young of *Interbit Data* and I were the only two people to attend all the North American shows, although Arthur is not sure I should brag about it.

The bad news is that some conference regulars were missing this year. Some users that we see every year did not attend. We all agree that Meditech's decision to not attend the MUSE conferences is bad for everyone (including Meditech whether they admit it or not.) MUSE Treasurer Bob Becker admitted publicly at the Region 2 Conference that Meditech left because they did not like having competition. While vendors don't like it, competition is good for the users. A few years ago we created a free utility called NPR2PC to let users download an NPR report to their PC. A few months later, Meditech added this functionality to the standard NPR product. Who benefited the most? The users.

In the year since Meditech left, they have maintained that they wish the MUSE organization well and want to keep a line of communication open with the MUSE board. The MUSE board has done its part to try to get Meditech to participate in MUSE in any way. MUSE has proposed that Meditech could participate via video conferencing, or record a speech on tape, or participate in

peer group sessions via speakerphone. So far these attempts have been unsuccessful. I hope everyone will encourage Meditech to attend the upcoming MUSE conference in Miami in May. We'll be there with our latest products. We hope to see all of you. Don't forget to register early and save your hospital some money!

Client Server Visual Flowsheet Now Available

As of December 1, Iatric Systems has officially announced that the **Client Server** version of the **Visual Flowsheet** product is now available. The **Visual Flowsheet** software combines clinical data from multiple Meditech applications into a single Graphical User Interface. As one of our current users puts it, "Finally, software that displays information the way a clinician wants to see it."

According to Joel Berman, President of Iatric Systems, "The **Visual Flowsheet** product has been very well received by hospitals running the Magic version of Meditech. We are looking forward to extending this product offering to our Client Server customers. Our continued growth in the Client Server marketplace represents our commitment to providing quality products and services to all Meditech hospitals."

There are still a couple of beta opportunities available with the standard release planned for the end of the 1st Quarter of 2002. If you would like more information, simply reply to this Newsletter or contact Estelle Tournas at (978)805-4135.

Iatric Facts: Growing to Meet Your Needs

Iatric Systems has been providing products and services to hospitals operating the Meditech HIS for over 10 years. In recent years, we have seen a pattern of accelerated, yet responsible growth.

Sales Revenue Growth for Past 3 Years

1999 - 21%

2000 - 24%

2001 - 42% (projected)

Much of our growth is directly related to the expanding needs within the Meditech Marketplace. PalmCare, Visual Flowsheet, and our new I-Online (web based training program) are just a few examples of our commitment to helping hospitals leverage their Meditech investment. We would like to thank our 500+ active customers for their continuous feedback so that we may continue to respond to the needs of Meditech users.

NPR Tips: Patient's Location "as of" a particular date and time

Quite often, users will want a report to sort or total orders, interventions, drugs, lab tests, or similar items by "location". By "location" they mean the location of the patient at the time of the order, intervention, or transaction. The MEDITECH clinical modules, however, do not store the patient's location at the time of a transaction or order, but provide a @location field which gives the patient's current location, which does not serve well for such reports. This is understandable, since the Admissions module allows you to swap, undo, and do retro-active transfers of a patient, and if the location was stored in the orders in PHA, OE, LAB etc, there would be a lot of fixing needed after every such transaction.

Some sites take advantage of the fact that devices can be mapped to locations, and use the location dictionary's index of devices to sort orders by location. This assumes that you map devices to only a single location, that the orders for a location are placed on restricted devices,

and that you do not do any messing with the device dictionary that makes the mapping obsolete or inaccurate.

Other sites put a query on a CDS screen to capture the patient's location via an attribute. This is better than the device approach, but would be inaccurate if the location at the time of the order was not the patient's actual location, and a retroactive fix or transfer in Admissions was done for the patient after the order was filed.

The best approach is to write an NPR macro as a program, passing the patient's admissions urn, and the effective date and time for which you want to know the location. The macro loops through the Admissions events for the patient, picking out (1) the most recent transfer prior to the date and time desired and (2) the oldest transfer after the date and time desired. When all events are processed, the location of the patient is (1) if found, (2) if no transfer prior to the date and time is found or the patient's current or discharge location if no transfers have occurred.

Example code is shown below:

```
A^ADM.PAT.urn,
B^DATE,
C^TIME,
DO{@Next(ADM.PAT.event.date) ""^ADM.PAT.event.seq.no,
DO{@Next(ADM.PAT.event.seq.no) 1,
IF{"<FIXED>"=@ADM.PAT.event.qualifiers;
L(@ADM.PAT.event.code,"TFR")=L(@ADM.PAT.event.code);
@ADM.PAT.event.eff.date=DATE&(@ADM.PAT.event.eff.time>TIME) 1,
IF{'ALOC @ADM.PAT.location^ALOC};
@ADM.PAT.event.eff.date>DATE IF{'ALOC @ADM.PAT.location^ALOC};
@ADM.PAT.event.location^LOC}}},
IF{LOC;ALOC;@ADM.PAT.location};
```

A report example has been placed in the Iatric Report Library in the NUR module.

It is called NUR.PC.WORK.zcus.is.documentation.elapsed.time. Another trick shown in this example report is the use of ADM.PAT.inpatient.location as a select field on page 2. You get two error messages from the translator, but it works nicely to provide a lookup on inpatient locations only, rather than a lookup on all locations.

I-Online Learning Update

The first ***I-Online Attributes Course*** was a success! Users reported that they enjoyed the presentation and found the I-Online Learning experience to be beneficial as well as cost effective. Iatric Systems is proud to announce another course in January.

Next Scheduled Course:

CDS Attributes: January 22, 24, 29, 31 at 0900 - 1100 EST

Please contact Jason Medeiros at jasonm@iatricsys.com or respond to this Newsletter for more information.

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Newsletters, please visit our web site at www.iatricsys.com. Simply click on the "Signup for our Monthly Newsletter" button.

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.

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