



Updates!

An Electronic Newsletter from Iatric Systems

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Good Data is Good Medicine: Handhelds Deliver Patient Information to Clinicians

Clinicians at NorthEast Medical Center in Concord, North Carolina are conducting their morning rounds differently these days. Since the implementation of a wireless patient data delivery system, called the MData™ Enterprise System, clinicians are downloading their patients' data onto their handheld devices directly from their hospital's MEDITECH information systems. This data includes up-to-date patient census lists, demographics, laboratory results, diagnostic reports, medication lists, and transcribed reports.

Keith McNeice, Chief Information Officer of NorthEast Medical Center explains his department's decision to implement the Iatric Systems/MercuryMD solution: "We've had a major strategic push over the past three years involving enhancements to our clinical information systems. One goal has been to put information into the hands of physicians at the right time and in the right place so they can more effectively administer care within our facility. The handheld devices and MData allow our physicians to access medical records faster and more easily than before, so their work days are more efficient."

NorthEast Medical Center is just one of nine hospital systems – representing over 30 hospitals – that purchased MData in 2002. This mobile computing technology for MEDITECH hospitals was made possible through the successful partnership between Iatric Systems and MercuryMD. Iatric Systems developed an interface engine that securely transmits patient data from MEDITECH information systems to MercuryMD's MData. This transmission is crucial to MData's ability to deliver patient data to clinicians' handheld devices.

For more information please contact info@iatricsys.com or sales@mercurymd.com. You can also visit the MercuryMD web site at <http://www.mercurymd.com>.

New Features Available with Medical Necessity Ordermate version 3.3!

Iatric Systems has released MNO version 3.3! This newest version of MNO includes many enhancements that will improve your medical necessity processes and help you to meet the expanding requirements defined by CMS and your Fiscal Intermediaries. Enhancements include:

- Expanded medical necessity evaluations including restrictions for test frequency, gender and age, tests that are never covered, tests with a secondary diagnosis required, and popup messages for additional evaluations;
- A NEW HCPCS dictionary to allow for the evaluation of HCPCS Level II codes and editing of CPT code descriptions;
- A separate patient database for the standalone Compliance Calculator for patient audit trail and statistics;
- A Quick Check Calculator for even faster medical necessity evaluations;
- Expanded keyword maintenance functionality;
- Standalone routine to reassign patient ABN Status;
- New integrated MNO routine in Scheduling to view the Compliance Calculator results screen;
- Multi-tiered alt code functionality allows evaluation of multiple alt code types.

Existing customers may contact their Iatric Support Consultant or reply to this email to schedule an upgrade to this latest version. If you would like more information about our Medical Necessity Ordermate product, please reply to this email and we will have someone contact you directly.

Customer Request - Sharing *Event Notification System* Examples

The primary goal of our "Updates!" newsletter was to provide an effective method for keeping our customers updated on the status of Iatric Systems' products and services. In fact, many of our articles are written to respond to specific requests of our customers. In a recent newsletter, one of our long-time Event Notification System (ENS) customers asked us if we could share examples of how other customers are using this diverse automatic notification tool.

Through a survey of our current customers, we have been able to compile a web page that shows some of the many ways the ENS product can benefit an organization. Feel free to visit us at <http://www.iatricsys.com/EventNotificationSystemExamples.htm>. This page will always be a work in progress and existing customers are welcome to submit further examples as to how you are able to use ENS to create efficiencies within your organization.

If you would like more information regarding the *Event Notification System*, please feel free to respond to this email and we will have someone contact you directly.

Is Your Travel Budget Effecting Your Professional Development?

Don't let diminishing travel and educational budgets effect your staff's professional development. Iatric Systems Online Classes (I-Online) provide a cost-effective way to obtain professional education, in an interactive environment, with qualified Iatric Systems instructors. We have recently added more classes for the 1st Quarter of 2003.

Clinical Rules Training (Order Entry, Pharmacy, Laboratory)

February 3, 4, 6, 11 @1600 EST

March 10, 11, 13, 17 @1500 EST

Introduction to Customer Defined Screen Attributes

February 4, 6, 10, 12 @ 1300 EST

If you would like more information regarding Course Formats, Outlines and Cost, please visit our website at <http://www.iatricsys.com/link.asp?URL=webintro.htm>. You may also reply directly to this email and we will have someone contact you directly.

NPR Tips: Smart Page Breaks

Most users of the NPR Report Writer are probably aware of the PG=N Line attribute which forces a page break if there are fewer than N lines remaining on the current page. You can use this to prevent a report from page breaking within a record if the detail section is a fixed number of lines. (The N in PG=N must be a hard coded number).

Often you write a report using some multiple fields or some /MV arrays and each record uses a different number of lines to print. Using PG, you would need to guess at the size of the biggest record, then use that number, and you would waste a lot of blank space at the bottom of the pages of the output. Or you could use a smaller value and just mostly avoid breaking a page in the middle of a record.

A better method is to calculate the number of lines your record will require, in advance of printing the next record, and force a page break "yourself" if you do not have enough lines left to print the entire record.

Take an example report which has both dx's and procedures as multiple fields:

The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "Enter/Edit Report: Smart Page Break Example Report". The window displays a report layout with a header and several data rows. The header row is: "REG A 0-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----". Below the header, there are three rows of fixed fields: "HP Acct Name Admit Dt Dis Dt Attending Docto", "HP", and "HP". These are followed by three rows of variable fields: "D account.numb name_____ adm.date dis.date attending.phys'", "D + Diagnoses Procedures", "D dx_____ dx.name_____ drg.pro drg.proc's.name_____", and "D dx_____ dx.name_____ drg.pro drg.proc's.name_____". The terminal window also shows "Editing Picture - <ESC> for Fields or Regions <Insert Mode> [0->82" at the top.

Notice that the fixed part of each patient's record will use 3 lines, and the variable part will be big enough to list all the diagnoses and all the procedures of the patient. Since the diagnoses and procedures print in two parallel columns, you will need to add either the number of diagnoses or the number of procedures to the 3 fixed line quantity, whichever is greater.

If you calculate this in a macro, and call the macro "AL D", your macro will run prior to the printing of each record. In the macro, you can call the new page printing program "yourself" in order to force a new page when you have determined that there are not enough lines left to print the next record on the remaining space on the page.

The code in the macro can be done as follows:

```
@Last(dx.seq.no)^DXCNT,
@Last(drg.proc.seq.no)^PROCNT,
3^FIXEDPART,
IF{/LL-FIXEDPART-(DXCNT!PROCNT)<1 %[/R.NEW.PAGE.PGM(0)}
```

The @Last() operator goes backward on the subscript and gives you the last value. Since diagnoses and drg.procedures are stored by sequence numbers, the last sequence number is equal to the number of values stored.

Since your macro is only called 1x per detail record, if you have a record which exceeds the page size you will not cause an infinite loop of new page printing. If you had a "PAGE" type header key and attached the macro with an AL HP footnote, you would need to worry about this possibility. Checking to make sure the record does not exceed the report's lines per page (stored in /R.LP) can be done as follows:

```
@Last(dx.seq.no)^DXCNT,
@Last(drg.proc.seq.no)^PROCNT,
3^FIXEDPART,
IF{/LL-FIXEDPART-(DXCNT!PROCNT)<1>(0-/R.LP) %[/R.NEW.PAGE.PGM(0)}
```

This tip can be used in Client Server as well, with one change. The lines left is kept in /R.LL in C/S so you will need to replace /.LL with /R.LL in the above macros.

Bonus Tip/Reminder. When printing diagnoses or procedure names, don't forget to insert a sort just above urn of @drg.grouper.version. Otherwise you will print the special HIPAA compliant invisible values for these fields.

```
Sort Field
1 pt.status
2 dis.date
3 account.number
4 drg.grouper.version
5 urn
```

The preceding report can be downloaded from our NPR Library on our web site (<http://www.iatricsys.com>) - ABS.PAT.zcus.smart.page.breaks.

Subscribing/Contacting Us

If this Newsletter has been forwarded to you and you would like to subscribe to future Iatric 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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