



# ***Iatric Systems***

Innovative Healthcare Solutions

## **Updates!**

e-Newsletter by Iatric Systems

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### **Product Development Milestone - Visual FlowSheet 2004**

Our customers in the Meditech HCIS community understand that Iatric Systems' VFS (Visual FlowSheet) provides amazing benefits to the hospital staff interested in viewing clinical results in a simple, electronic, traditional flowsheet format. However, we are now raising the bar.

The development of the new MAR functionality is a major milestone for VFS. In collaboration with existing VFS customers, the Iatric Systems Development Team is rolling-out the latest release of VFS, which includes the following upgrades:

- Medications can be displayed by Trade or Generic name
- Default and on-the-fly sorting of meds is available by name, schedule and next admin time

- Linked orders are easily identified and always adjacent
- Documentation of one or more meds at a time
- Pharmacy meds can now display with associated queries, LAB Test View Groups and dose instructions
- Medications can be acknowledged from VFS
- Tooltips have been expanded to show multiple lines of data via a mouse hover
- The use of color has been expanded to identify Scheduled, Given and Overdue medications
- Overdue medications that are outside VFS' date range are clearly displayed



We specifically thank the customers that participated in the development of VFS-2004, which quite simply makes VFS an even more attractive solution for delivering quality care more easily.

Iatric Systems will announce a webcast shortly, where you can get a demonstration of the new features via the internet. When the webcast is available, we will post it here:  
<http://www.iatricsys.com/iatnewsuv.asp?id=64>

## "Medical Necessity" and "Customer Service"

What is your reaction to those two phrases in the same title? Contradiction? Dichotomy? Oxymoron?

Iatric Systems has been implementing Medical Necessity solutions in the Meditech marketplace for over 6 years. During that time, we have come to recognize that these two phrases are actually inter-related. We have learned that "Medical Necessity" can only be successful when implemented with "Customer Service" as its focus. Yes, hospitals do need to comply. The penalties for non-compliance can be severe. However, compliance does not have to be accomplished at the cost of alienating patients, physicians and employees.



In our recent article, Medical Necessity and Customer Service, we conclude that... "The Medical Necessity process will definitely challenge your customer service initiatives. However, this does not mean that customer service should not be the foundation of your implementation. It is the customer service initiatives that will drive the success of your implementation. Providing comprehensive education and training, quality tools and top level support will demonstrate your organization's commitment to customer service in the midst of adversity."

Please click the link below to download the full version of this article, or reply to this email and we will send a copy directly to you. We welcome your questions, thoughts and feedback.

<http://iatric.com/Medical Necessity and Customer Service.pdf>

**NEW I-Online course offerings - B/AR Proration Rules & Interdisciplinary Documentation using NUR**

In last month's issue of **Updates!**, we mentioned that we would be expanding our "I-Online" course offerings for 2004. Iatric Systems is proud to announce two new additions to our I-Online Learning Program - the "B/AR Proration Rules" course, and the "Interdisciplinary Documentation using NUR" course.

By listening to the Meditech community, we have created courses that will lead users through material, based on your training needs with respect to your busy schedule. Our multi-session courses are divided into smaller, 2 hour chunks of time to maximize learning, and easily integrate with your work day. You are able to access our online meeting in the comfort of your own office or training room and immediately apply the concepts learned. As with our other I-Online Courses, we will use an "online demo" approach combined with post-session exercises.

#### [B/AR PRORATION COURSE DETAIL:](#)

The I-Online B/AR Proration Rules Course is designed for anyone who is interested in learning about B/AR Proration Rules and for users who need to write and/or maintain the rules. This is an 8 hour course, split into four, 2 hour sessions. The first course begins March 15<sup>th</sup> @1300 EST.

Specific topics to be covered in this course include, but are not limited to:

- Understanding Rules that affect the B/AR module
- Understanding B/AR module dictionaries
- Developing proration rules
- Using the Input and Output variables provided by Meditech
- Reading and Writing code
- Writing simple rules
- Writing complex rules
- "Going-Live" with proration rules

#### [INTERDISCIPLINARY DOCUMENTATION using NUR - COURSE DETAIL:](#)

Do you feel like you aren't using the NUR module to its potential? Do you have ancillary departments that want to document via NUR? Do you have a new employee who needs to become proficient in NUR? If you've answered YES to any of these questions, then we have got the class for you!

Please join us for this 6 hour course, split into three, 2 hour sessions while we explore the NUR dictionaries and learn to build them so that all members of the interdisciplinary team can be included. Attendees should be comfortable creating Customer Defined Screens and should have a basic knowledge of NUR. The first course begins April 20<sup>th</sup> @1300 EST.

For more details on the I-Online Learning Program, or to register for any of the courses, please click on the following link: <http://www.iatricsys.com/link.asp?URL=webintro.htm>  
OR, contact us directly at [INFO@iatricsys.com](mailto:INFO@iatricsys.com)

## **Security Auditing made easy!**

Back in the October issue of Updates!, we discussed the countdown to HIPAA compliance related to the Security Rule. We introduced SAM (Security Audit Manager) and how it can

help you comply (April 2005 will come quickly). Don't just cross your fingers and hope.

Our programmers have been hard at work to develop standard audit reports that can be delivered as part of SAM. They are designed to highlight possible security violations. Having the ability to identify possible security risks helps protect your patients' health information, and is essential to delivering proper service. In addition, the HIPAA Security Rule defines the standards (§ 164.306).



Our original "standard" reports portfolio is expanding to offer more ways to identify security risks. Consider the following items. Could they be valuable to your organization?

Identify users accessing a patient's records:

- where the user has the same last name as the patient.
- where the user lives on the same street as the patient.
- where the patient is a co-worker (user and patient work at same hospital).
- where the patient has already been discharged.
- for greater than a specified time (E.g. who is reviewing a patient's record for more than 30 minutes?).
- from a physician's office.

As you can imagine, there are many other possibilities. We will continue to develop our standard reports portfolio to meet your needs. If you are interested in learning more about SAM, please click here: <http://www.iatricsys.com/iatnewsuv.asp?id=59>

### **NPR Report Writer Tip: Totals by Month Across a Report**

Users often request that a report presents totals across a report, rather than down the page, for example, in a LSS report showing office visits by provider:

	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
SMITH, R	196	10	17	23	14	23	16	17	11	12	22	13	18
JONES, A	211	22	32	11	17	18	28	19	10	11	17	14	12
Total	407	32	49	34	31	41	44	36	21	23	39	27	30

Start by creating an index of months in the date range:

```

b.txn.ser.date%3$2^ MON,
b.txn.ser.date$4^ YEAR,
DO{ CNT+ 1 ^ CNT< 13 %Z.month.out(MON+0)_ " "(YEAR%1)^ /HDR[CNT],
    CNT^ /MAP[YEAR_MON],
    MON+ 1 ^ MON,
    IF{ L(MON)< 2 "0" _MON^ MON},
    IF{ MON> 12 "01" ^ MON, YEAR+ 1 ^ YEAR} }
    
```

The /MAP structure will provide the column for the month for a given YYYYMM. The /HDR[n] structure is a list of Month and Year text for the column headers. For a report spanning calendar year 2003, the two lists would look like this:

```
/MAP[200301] = 1   /HDR[1] = JAN 03  
/MAP[200302] = 2   /HDR[2] = FEB 03
```

Your report should then have a set of fields across the page header to print column headers. Just change the number in square brackets from 1 to 12 to make your 12 computed fields for the headers.

```
                                Edit Field Attributes: xx.1  
DAT=FREE  
JFY=L  
LEN=6  
VAL=/HDR[1]
```

Make another set of fields to produce the column totals. These fields have a function of TOT and are set up so that the date field (here the transaction service date) gets truncated to just have a year and month (YYYYMM) and that is used in the /MAP structure to produce a column number. An IF statement tests whether the current date is within the month, and the proper column totals are incremented as the detail records are processed.

```
                                Edit Field Attributes: xx.d1  
FNC=TOT  
JFY=R  
LEN=6  
VAL=IF{/MAP[@txn.ser.date$6]=1 1}
```

A nice advantage of this approach is that you can repeat the set of computed totaling fields in any trailer regions to get subtotals and grand totals just by copying them; you do not need a new set of fields.

Two example magic reports have been uploaded to our report library:

```
PBR.ACT.zcus.is.office.visits.by.month  
RADRW.EXAM.zcus.is.monthly.exam.tots.by.doc
```

You can use the same code and technique in a C/S report. The Radiology report uses a slightly different technique to make the table of dates, storing a range of clinical dates in the format:

Q(Start Date,End Date)^/CUT[N] where N = column number.

The computed field code is also slightly different to do a range comparison between the exam date and the values stored in the list. This is because clinical dates cannot be divided into months by truncation, as they represent the number of days since March 1 1980.

This NPR tip can be found here: <http://www.iatric.com/iattipsuv.asp?id=41>

You'll also find other NPR tips here: <http://www.iatricsys.com/iattipsul.asp>

## 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](http://www.iatricsys.com). Click on the "**Signup for our Monthly Newsletter**" button, which is just "Northwest" of the center of the page. Or, simply click this button:



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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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