



Iatric Systems
Innovative Healthcare Solutions

Updates!

e-Newsletter by Iatric Systems

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Industry Trends - Is Technology Important to Physicians?

On the technology side of healthcare, we understand why we invest in HIS gear and software. Although specific details vary by the targeted department, the overall benefit should be an increase in value for the users, but ultimately, the patients should receive improved **Quality of Care**. Within the hospital organization, HIS users may be clinical, financial, or administrative. The trick is to target applications which will provide the greatest overall benefit.

In many cases, physicians are the users. They bring additional variables to the equation, since they do not work directly for the hospital. However, if you cannot attract and hold a great medical staff, the likelihood of having a quality hospital is low. With this in mind, the technology a hospital can provide for its physicians is essential. According to "*Modern Physician*" of Nov 2003, "physicians today believe in information technology", and "physician leaders say their hospitals and fellow doctors are joining the information revolution as both physician acceptance of

automation and organizational investment in technology rise." The key is that physicians are beginning to realize the advantages of healthcare information technology. This facilitates cooperation between the hospital's informatics staff and physicians.

The Modern Physician report goes on with detailed statistics from the 436 survey respondents. One question, "what do your physicians use computer-based systems for?" provided the following break-down. Billing and claims submission (80.7%), scheduling/patient appointment reminders (74.3%), Lab orders/results (63.3%). Other notable uses were Patient Records (50.5%), Patient Eligibility (48.9), and Prescribing (27.8%).

To see the complete Modern Physician report, please go here:

<http://www.pwchealth.com/cgi-local/hcregister.cgi?link=pdf/ithabits.pdf>

Joel's MUSEings - Regional MUSE 2003

The fall MUSE 2003 Regional conference season is over. The good news is that more vendors attended than ever. Many shows sold out the vendor space and the overflow vendor space. That means there were more vendors with more products and services than ever before. The bad news is that user attendance was down. My guess is that it was down by 30-40%. Why? When asked, most people said cost. However, many people didn't come even though the show was in their city, so the travel costs were close to zero. Was it the registration fee? If MUSE included a few regional registrations as part of the hospital's registration fee, would more of you attend? If your hospital still said no, would you take a day off to attend? Or, is there some other reason? If so, please write to me (JoelB@iatricsys.com) or Alan Sherbinin (MUSE Executive Director, muse@museweb.org) and let us know your thoughts. We recently ran a poll on our web site and 83% of you said that MIX isn't working. What would make you put the next MUSE conference on your calendar today?

As a long time MUSE vendor and supporter, I want MUSE to succeed. More people attending MUSE means we get to talk to more customers. Throughout the year, and especially during the Regional and International MUSE seasons, we dedicate substantial energy (and resources) toward determining the best way to make MUSE participation meaningful for all attendees. We're already working on our plans for Miami next year. In my discussions with MUSE board members, another issue that surfaced is fewer presentations are being given by users. Do you have an idea for a session, but are a little afraid to get up in front of a group and talk about it? Not sure if it's worthwhile? Please call or write to me or any MUSE board member. Perhaps we can do a presentation together.

Thanks to everyone that stopped-by our booth to say hello!

NOTE: Joel Berman is the Owner and President of Iatric Systems. Joel has over 22 years of experience working with Meditech HIS and clients. Joel is passionate about maximizing the "Meditech HIS experience" and Iatric Systems provides services, products, and information to the users that are aligned with this passion.

You'll find Alan Sherbinin and other MUSE contacts here:

<http://www.museweb.org/contacts/index.htm>

Business Partner Article - MercuryMD's Mobile Patient Data System

Iatric Systems is a proud business partner of MercuryMD. On 13 October, the following announcement was released by MercuryMD introducing a new approach to Inpatient Care and Community Health. This release can also be found at the MercuryMD website.

MERCURYMD'S MOBILE PATIENT DATA SYSTEM NOW AVAILABLE ON TABLETS AND DESKTOP PC'S

MercuryMD, a healthcare focused software company that provides hospitals with mobile technology solutions to improve clinical workflow and operational efficiencies, today announced the availability of **MData Desktop** - a new web-based extension of MercuryMD's MData® Enterprise System that facilitates a continuous and integrated approach to inpatient care and community health by promoting patient information sharing between caregivers, such as "hospitalists" and primary care physicians.

With MData Desktop, hospitals can successfully address community-based physicians' information needs by giving primary care physicians the same access to patient data as Hospitalists - putting both sets of caregivers on the same page in terms of patient information. Ultimately, this kind of open, free-flowing dialogue can also improve patient care.

"By allowing users to remotely access real-time patient data from the convenience of their offices or homes from any tablet or desktop PC, clinical users who practice outside the hospital are now benefiting from MData," commented Alan Ying, MercuryMD's Chief Executive Officer. "This expanded user-base improves communication between primary care physicians and hospital-based physicians

caring for the same patient, leading to a higher quality of community health."

Iatric Systems facilitates the integration of MercuryMD's solutions and the Meditech HIS.

For a quick demonstration of MData Desktop, please visit www.mercurymd.com

Useful resource - ITNurse.net

Iatric Systems is committed to providing innovative solutions to the Meditech marketplace. We offer NPR Report Writing, user training, interfaces, and many other software solutions.

In addition, we want to be sure to support the Meditech user community. Recently, Daniel Davis, located at Southern Hills Medical Center (HCA network) in Nashville, launched a website. The content on his site will be a great resource to users. As with any website, it is a WIP (work in progress), but he's off to a great start.

Taken from "the Meditech L", Daniel refers to his website as follows: It is "set up specifically to support the IT Nurse with an emphasis on the Meditech software. This is designed to support a community of knowledgeable people, and offer interactive capability by allowing registered users to submit articles, comment on other articles and join in a discussion forum. It is my hope that this will augment the Meditech-L list and the other Meditech oriented web sites."

Join us in wishing Daniel "good luck" with his website. His site can be found here: <http://www.itnurse.net>

NPR Tip - Useful Pharmacy Utilities

The following programs are available in both Magic and C/S PHA.

%PHA.U.strip.trailing.zeros(A)

In some places, PHA presents a quantity with trailing zeros to the right of the decimal point, e.g. "0.10" instead of "0.1". To strip and convert "0.10" to "0.1" use the PHA.U.utility above.

%PHA.RX.compile.med.array(urn)

This utility builds a list by med mnemonic in /D (unless you pass in extra arguments) of all the medications in an order. In our Dec 2002 E-Updates newsletter, we detailed how to create a PHA report using this utility to select orders containing a medication with a particular generic. Example reports are in our Magic and C/S report libraries:

PHA.RX.zcus.is.select.order.by.generic.

%PHA.RX.compile.med.dose.list(A,B,C)

; A = urn (or gets from /urn)

; B = "G" generic name, "T" trade name

; C = ^ temp to store data

; Returns # of entries.

; Stores in [C,q#] = { med.display,dose.display}

This utility builds a list of the medications in an order in a similar fashion to a MAR, all lines of the order similar to what you get with the field @med.temp.line on a MAR detail fragment. This provides a quick way to present more information about a Pharmacy order within an NPR Report.

Example reports are in our Magic and C/S report libraries:

PHA.RX.zcus.is.show.meds.like.a.mar

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

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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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