

Can EHR Save the Private Practice?

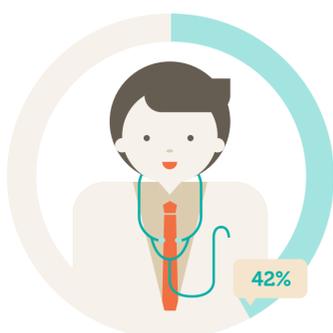


Private practices are struggling to maintain their independence. Changing reimbursements, regulatory requirements, and increasing costs are often cited as the big challenges. However, electronic health records (EHR) can help improve profitability, increase physician and patient satisfaction, and have a positive impact on patient care as well.

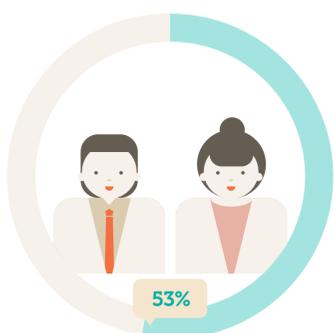
Independent Practices and EHRs

Of private practices with five or fewer physicians, an average of just over **50%** report having an EHR today:

Key: ■ Practices Utilizing EHR



Solo practices



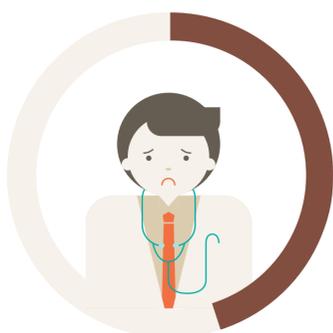
Partnerships of 2 physician practices



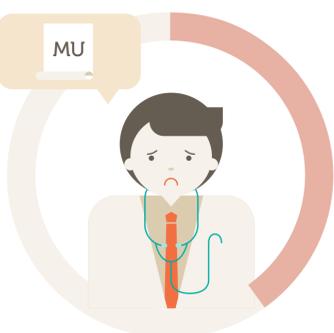
3-5 physician practices

Lack of EHR Adoption

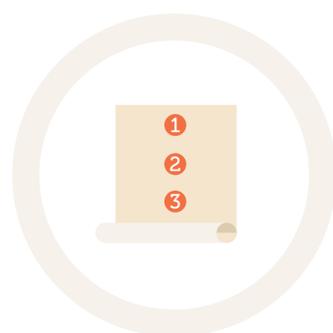
Although many practices utilize EHRs to their benefit, a slight majority still doubt their effectiveness:



More than **45%** of physicians in practices of ≤ 5 don't have an EHR



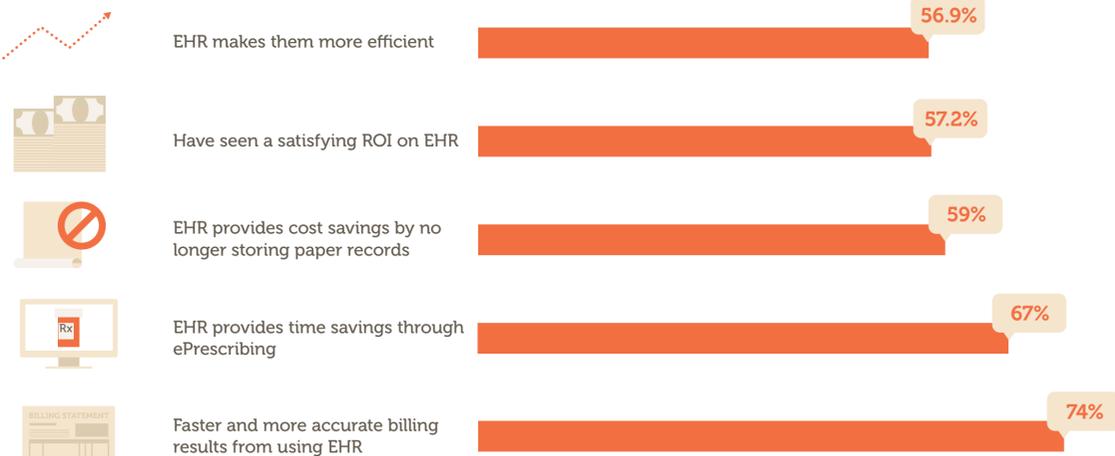
Only **40%** of physicians have an EHR that meets meaningful use (MU) criteria



Ease of use remains one of the top concerns about EHR

Advantages of EHR

Those using EHR in their practice have seen the tangible benefits to their utilization:



Additionally, nurses using EHR have seen reductions in documentation time of over **45%**.

Increased ROI

The ROI of EHR in action:



Power to the People

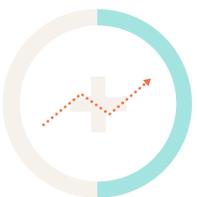
Beyond the ROI of using EHR in practice, the majority of physicians using EHR believe that it improves patient care in many areas by:



60% of doctors believe that patient care benefits outweigh EHR adoption costs.



Physicians using EHRs score significantly higher on care quality measures for diabetes, breast cancer, chlamydia and colorectal cancer.



Over 50% of physicians believe that health information technology (HIT) adoption is increasing progress in patient safety and improving quality of care.



82% of physicians with fully functioning EHRs report a positive impact on clinical decision quality.



73% of all physicians believe that HIT will improve long term quality of care.

Most importantly, it's what patients want from their physician:

2 out of 3 people would consider switching to a physician who offers access to medical records through a secure internet connection



Implementing EHR does require investment and commitment, despite the many obvious long-term rewards. Taking this step now can help your private practice stay independent and thrive in the future.

learn more at <http://kareo.com/ehr>

SOURCES:

CDC.gov; Physician Office Usage of Electronic Health Records Software, SK&A, January 2013; Physician Practice 2013 Technology Survey; Quest Diagnostics; Athenahealth/Sermo, 2012 Physician Sentiment Index; Electronic Health Records and Ambulatory Quality of Care, Journal of General Internal Medicine, April 2013; Wolters Kluwer Health 2013 Physician Outlook Survey, www.wolterskluwerhealth.com; Healthpoint; Physician Adoption of Health Information Technology: Implications for Medical Practice Leaders and Business Partner, Deloitte, 2013; 2011 Survey of Health Care Consumers in the United States, Key Findings, Strategic Implications, Deloitte Center for Health Solutions, 2011; National Partnership for Women and Families, Making IT meaningful: How Consumers Value and Trust Health IT, 2012; MGMA: Return on Investment in EHRs, UBM White Paper, July 2011

Created by **COLUMN FIVE**

