

Physician EMR Strategy - five ways to get home sooner this week

By Dike Drummond MD, CEO of TheHappyMD.com

Full blog post is [At This Link](#)

Remember that EMR is a Dilemma

There is no SOLUTION. Your job is to build a STRATEGY to minimize the amount of your personal effort it takes to create the minimum acceptable documentation that you require.



Here are some potential components of your own EMR/documentation strategy.

Read the full report, then pick just one and get started

1) Check your attitude

- Stop being a Hater
- Become a Power User instead
- Find the power users in your organization – the nurses know who they are
 - Watch them document
 - Learn their power tips
 - Steal their templates

2) Always use a minimal data set

Document only what you need and nothing more

Do NOT write the great American novel

The three reasons for a chart note:

a) Continuity

- can somebody else pick the chart up and take over where you started?

b) To support the billing code

- is there enough in the chart to support your charge level?

c) Cover your “legal part”

- document what you need to prevent malpractice concerns

NOTICE:

Does your note have to be in complete sentences?

Must your note have perfect punctuation?

Do you ever need to use the semi colon key?

If what you are typing does not support

- Continuity of care
- The billing code
- Or cover your “legal part”

DO NOT PUT IT IN THE CHART !!

3) Use the software

This is meant to be semi-automated by templates.

Ideally only 30% or less of your documentation is free typed into the medical record

REMEMBER:

How many times do you have to make a template?

And how many times can you use that template?

Automate your BRM's = Broken Record Moments

When do you have “broken record moments”?

This is a sign you could use more template

- Make a list of your broken record moments – the diagnoses and patient complaints you see repeatedly and still type freehand each time. They make you feel like a Broken Record.
- Take one item off the list each week and template it. Your Power User friend can help.
- In one month you'll have four new templates and will be getting home sooner.

4) Use your team

You are programmed to be a Lone Ranger superhero perfectionist

You are probably doing too much yourself

All documentation is team documentation.

You don't have to do it all

The team can work together to document the team's activities

Just ask your team how to share the load more effectively and let them help you

5) Hire a Scribe (for physicians & APC's)

Administrators are concerned about money and manpower

Hire and pay for the scribe in a pilot project – so you are taking the risk

Look at your production before and after the scribe and prove you can make more money than the scribe's salary costs
Then "claw back" the scribe's salary by having the organization pay it out of your extra income

[Full Hire a Scribe Training is at This Link](#)

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EMR be Damned ... let's get to work.

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