

## **EMR Software - The Simple Facts on Fax**

Physician clinics realize that in Canada within the next decade there will be a requirement from federal and provincial governments to use Electronic Medical Records (EMR) for all patients. Already in Alberta the government funding has been available since 2002 to assist doctors in converting their records to electronic files. British Columbia is on track to make provincial funding available in 2008 to help entice physicians to convert their practices to EMR. And there are many physicians and specialists who realize they can save time and money by using an EMR software so they are sourcing and purchasing the systems they like without waiting for governments to eventually decide for them.

The ultimate goal of using an EMR software is to be paperless. This allows a clinic to save time – pulling charts, filing charts, rifling through documents within charts, filing faxes and other paperwork in charts, and so on. Paperless clinics also save money – there is less administrative labour, electronic billings are more accurate, fewer office supplies are needed, space can be used for seeing patients rather than file storage and transcription costs can be eliminated with an EMR software that allows doctors to create their own letters and forms with just a few clicks on a tablet computer. Even lab results now are available in electronic format.

But, what about the simple fax? Very few EMR software products have addressed faxing in a manner that is quick and easy for physicians and clinic staff to adopt. Optimed, however, has done just that. Working with the end result in mind – how to send and receive faxes electronically with as few clicks of the mouse as possible and no document scanning required –

Optimed's developers created a slick tool within the Accuro practice management software that just plain works. With input from clients as to what fax features would really add value, the faxing tool within the Accuro software includes:

- incoming faxes are electronic and can be viewed, deleted, and/or linked to a patient chart (no more scanning!)
- faxing from any computer in a clinic
- access to your Accuro address book for contact names and fax numbers
- customized physician letterhead and fax headers
- a fax preview window
- copying of faxes to other physicians
- queuing of outgoing faxes to send after hours or when it is convenient

The first and last points are very popular with busy clinics because it means no more document scanning, and the fax line is always available to receive faxes during business hours. MOAs can even queue a fax to be sent at a specific time and/or future date, eliminating the need to create a reminder to send it later.

Optimed's Accuro clinic management software offers many benefits to switching to Electronic Medical Records, but the fax feature is an advantage that our clients tell us really sets Accuro apart. (See ad on opposite page).

For more information on Optimed Software and its Accuro software, please contact us at [www.Optimedsoftware.com](http://www.Optimedsoftware.com)

