Clinical (EHR)
Reminders – More than just a memory jogger

RPMS-EHR

Electronic Health Record

Originally developed by:
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CDR, US Public Health Service
OIT National Programs – EHR Testing
Federal Lead – EHR, Clinical (EHR) Reminders
Session Objectives

At the end of this session, participants should be able to:

- Understand the basic end user functionality of Clinical Reminders
What are Clinical (EHR) Reminders?

- “The Clinical Reminders system allows caregivers to track and improve preventive healthcare and disease treatment for patients and to ensure that timely clinical interventions are initiated.” (VA Vista Website)

- Interactive decision support tools that can provide patient-specific screening or treatment recommendations on the basis of the most recent available data within the RPMS (Information Technology as a Tool to Improve the Quality of American Indian Health Care. Thomas D. Sequist, MD MPH, Theresa Cullen, MD, MS and John Z. Ayanian, MD, MPP).

Simple terms:
Clinical Reminders chart reviews for you and tells you what the patient needs

Presented by Emmanuel Y. Yennyemb, MBA, CSAP, CAC
Where are Clinical (EHR) Reminders?

- They are visible from 4 places in HER:
  1. “Alarm clock” icon on the toolbar
Where are Clinical (EHR) Reminders?

2- Reminders list on the Cover Sheet display DUE reminders
Where are Clinical (EHR) Reminders?

3-“Reminders drawer” on the Notes tab

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Where are Clinical (EHR) Reminders?

Reports tab (requires configuration):

The following disease screening, immunization and patient education recommendations are offered as guidelines to assist in your practice. These are only recommendations, not practice standards. The appropriate utilization of these for your individual patient must be based on clinical judgment and the patient’s current status.

--STATUS--  --DUE DATE--  --LAST DONE--
Alcohol Screen  RESOLVED  05/16/2009  05/16/2009
Domestic Violence  RESOLVED  05/16/2009  05/16/2009
Depression Screen  RESOLVED  05/16/2009  05/16/2009
Tobacco Screen  RESOLVED  05/16/2009  05/16/2009
Flu Shot Immunization  N/A  01/05/2009
Pneumovax Immunization  N/A  01/05/2009

*** END ***  CONFIDENTIAL Nursing Reminder Summary SUMMARY  pg. 1 ************
Where are Clinical (EHR) Reminders?
Details are available by right-clicking on a reminder.

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What are Clinical Reminder Dialogs?

- Clinical Reminder Dialogs facilitate documentation
  - Looks like a Template
  - Resolves the reminder (enters info into EHR/PCC)
  - Creates the note
  
  … all at the same time!!!

- Generates order
  - Meds
  - Labs
  - Consults

- Supports treatment algorithms

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The following reminders are due for this patient
Enter info in dialog

Writes note

Info also goes into RPMS (PCC)
Why do we need reminder systems?

- Improve preventive health care tracking
- Improve disease treatment monitoring
- Assist in clinical guideline implementation
- Improve patient safety
- Improve capture of GPRA and other reporting measure data (MU/IPC/)
Why can’t we just use the Health Summary reminder system with EHR?

- The Health Summary reminder system is not highly visible in EHR
- The Health Summary reminder system does not have a documentation tool for EHR
  - No longer using PCC+
Do we need Clinical (EHR) Reminders?

YES…

Clinical (EHR) Reminders restores:
- A visible reminder system
- A streamlined documentation tool

Clinical (EHR) Reminders additionally delivers:
- Locally configurable tools to solve local problems
- Reports tool to extract real time data on specific reminder

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Types of Clinical (EHR) Reminders

- National Reminders
  - Delivered to all sites
  - Based on same logic as Health Maintenance reminders
  - Many have associated ‘dialogs’ for data entry/note generation

- Local Reminders
  - Written at a local site to solve a particular clinical problem
  - Can be shared between sites
  - Dialogs can also be shared

- Reminder Reports
  - Can quickly extract data by provider
  - Very helpful for local reminders in identifying and tracking site specific issues
A little “Reminders” lingo…
Finding

• A FINDING is a piece of information that the reminder searches for in the computer

• FINDINGS are used to determine:
  • Who needs an intervention (cohort)
  • What resolves the reminder

Findings include individual or groups of Labs, Pt Ed Topics, Taxonomies of codes (ICD9, ICD0, CPT), Exam, Measurements, Health Factors, Medications…
Applicable

- The *Cohort is the “who needs the intervention”*
- A reminder is APPLICABLE to a patient if they are in the cohort

Age >50

NO h/o Colon ca

Cohort Identified

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Resolution

- What will turn this reminder OFF?
  - DM HgbA1C
  - Lab test
- DM ACE/ARB
  - Current & filled rx for ACEI or ARB

- A reminder is considered RESOLVED if the intervention (finding) defined by the reminder has been met/found

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Clinical Maintenance: DM HgbA1c

--STATUS--  --DUE DATE--  --LAST DONE--

Applicable: Due every 1 year for ages 18Y to 100Y within cohort.
07/01/2008 (E) Encounter Diagnosis: 250.00 DIABETES II/UNSPEC NOT UNCONTR
Prov. Narr. - TYPE 2 DIABETES
Historical Encounter Location: SELLS HOSP 000101

REMINDER DUE if patient has a diagnosis of Diabetes in the past 2 years AND no HGBA1C in the past year REMINDER ON if due within 3 months

Resolution: Last done 01/04/2007
Reminder Term: IHS-HGBA1C
01/04/2007 Laboratory test: AIC; value - 6.9

Cohort - DM dx
Resolution - found lab test
Due

• A reminder is DUE for patient if they are in the cohort (applicable) and have not yet had the intervention (finding) that the reminder is seeking.
Basic Reminder Logic

Does Patient meet cohort criteria?

- No → Reminder not applicable (white clock)
- Yes → Any Exclusions?

- No → Reminder not applicable (white clock)
- Yes → Fulfills resolution criteria?

- No → Reminder not applicable (white clock)
- Yes → Reminder Resolved

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Does Patient meet cohort criteria?
National Reminder – Dialog tools

- Screening bundle
- Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention (ASBI)
- Tobacco counseling and intervention
The future

- Reminders can be locally created and used for both problem identification and interventions
- Dialogs can be used to resolve reminder
- Dialogs can stand alone and be used as documentation tools like PCC+
- Reminders and Dialogs can be SHARED between sites
CAC Resources

- **FTP folder**

- **Sharepoint site for those with D1 account:**
  http://workgroups.ihs.gov/sites/reminders/default.aspx

- **Recorded webex trainings**
  - Reminders start to finish (several done by Mary Hager)
  - Getting started series (several done by Susan Richards)
    - Road map to deployment
    - Reminders – copy and customize
    - Dialogs – customize
    - Importing/Exporting reminders