



INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE/ELECTRONIC DENTAL RECORD

Background

The IHS Electronic Dental Record (EDR) is a commercial off-the-shelf dental clinical and practice management software application (Dentrix Enterprise) that is integrated with the Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS) or can be used as a stand-alone application for tribal/urban programs not using RPMS. The EDR will provide all the necessary clinical and dental practice management functionality needed by I/T/U Dental Programs.

How Do I Get the EDR?

Any facility wishing to obtain the EDR must meet the basic requirements of having personal computers with network connectivity in each dental operatory and currently be using the IHS Electronic Health Record (EHR) or be “EHR Ready”. Facilities that meet these requirements must then complete an EDR Facility Survey. An EDR Facility Survey can be completed and submitted online at <http://www.doh.ihs.gov/EDR/index.cfm?fuseaction=facility.display>

The EDR Facility Survey will be reviewed and the site’s EDR status will be communicated to the site. If review of the completed EDR Facility Survey demonstrates the site meets the preliminary EDR readiness standards, the site will be placed in the queue for an EDR Site Assessment. If a site does not meet the preliminary EDR readiness standards, it is the site’s responsibility to upgrade their systems prior to reapplying for EDR implementation.

How Much Does EDR Cost?

Sites that participate in the national IHS/EDR Project will be responsible for only those costs associated with the initial hardware (servers and operatory PCs) and software maintenance after the first year. Cost estimates are as follows:

- Server(s) (estimated range subject to site specific variables) = approx \$12,000 - \$35,000
- Operatory PCs = approx \$3,000 per operatory
- Software maintenance and support = approx \$600/year (beginning in Year 2)

When Will EDR Be Available?

Interfaces between the EDR and RPMS are currently being tested. Once the interfaces are certified, the EDR will be installed in three beta test sites. After completion of successful beta testing, EDR will be approved for national release. It is expected that beta testing will begin in late spring or early summer 2009 with national deployment to begin in summer 2009.



Can My Site Bypass National Funding, Use Its Own Funds to Purchase EDR, and Expedite the Implementation?

IHS funding for EDR implementation is limited each year. Sites that do not want to wait for IHS funded implementation and are willing to support EDR implementation with their own funds may do so using the IHS contract. Self-funded costs vary widely depending on each site's size, network configuration, and Information Technology infrastructure. A self-funded cost estimate can be obtained from Dr. George Chiarchiaro, EDR Project Manager, at george.chiarchiaro@ihs.gov.

Self-funded sites must meet the same EDR readiness standards and will be placed on a separate implementation track from IHS nationally funded sites.

If My Site Has Already Purchased Dentrix Or Dentrix Enterprise And Wants To Add The IHS Certified Interfaces With RPMS, What Is The Process And How Much Does It Cost?

It will be possible for sites that have already purchased Dentrix Enterprise without the IHS certified interfaces to add the most recent IHS certified HL7 interfaces. The process and cost will be determined after certification of the IHS interfaces in the summer 2009.

Sites that have already purchased Dentrix will also have the opportunity to upgrade their system to Dentrix Enterprise including the IHS certified interfaces. The process and cost will be determined after certification of the IHS interfaces in the summer 2009.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Visit the EDR website at <http://www.doh.ihs.gov/EDR/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.display> and review the Frequently Asked Questions or contact the EDR Project Manager:

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EDR Website
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