What You Need To Know About EMR for **Pain Management** Practices

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ABOUT THIS **EBOOK**

Healthcare practices of all sizes across the country have either already transitioned to electronic medical record software to help manage patient documentation or are in the process of replacing their first generation EHR.

Pain management practices, like other specialties, have unique needs. EMR solutions built especially for pain management doctors, clinics and offices include templates and interfaces that meet specific treatment and documentation needs.

ABOUT THIS **EBOOK**

This eBook provides you with basic information about **pain management EMR solutions**. Whether your office is implementing a first-time EMR software or looking to upgrade to a solution that better meets your needs, this eBook will help you determine what features to look for.

This eBook covers answers to common questions, including...

Why is a specialty EMR a good choice?

What is the importance of certification?

What are the advantages of cloud based solutions?
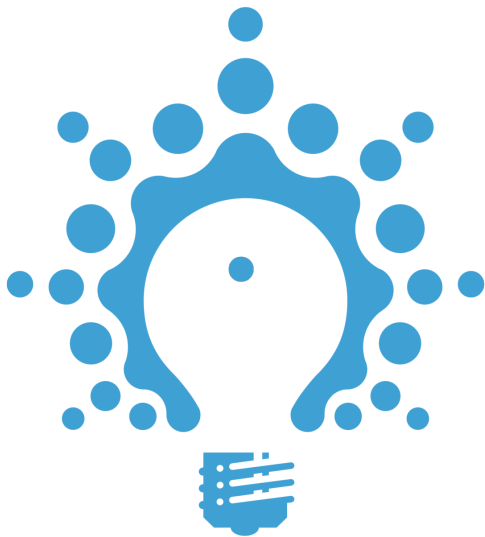
Is customization important?

What are pain management templates?

How does cost play a role in EMR selection?

WHY CHOOSE A **SPECIALTY EMR** FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT?

In general, electronic medical records offer significant benefits to doctors' offices and medical clinics. While the **incentives offered** by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services are a big draw, even without those incentives, pain management clinics that take the time to select and implement a solid pain management EMR often **find savings** in the form of **better compliance**, **more accurate claims billing** and **improved staff productivity.**

WHY CHOOSE A **SPECIALTY EMR** FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT?

Here are some requirements that are specific to pain clinics and best handled by Pain Management EMR Software:

A. There is a need to **integrate referrals from other clinics** and that includes documents, images, faxes, etc. into the workflow in a seamless manner.

B. Pain Clinics need **templates that are specific to pain management** including templates for documenting post-operative and pre-operative care easily. Some others may include common procedures like CESI, LESI, Facet Block.

C. Very often, there is a need for EMR to **integrate directly into vitals monitoring machines** present in operating rooms.

D. Additionally, these systems should **allow for easy ordering of tests** and receipt of results from laboratory, radiology and other diagnostic tests, through a **bi-directional interface.**

E. Systems used by Pain Clinics must also **include interactive diagrams** and anatomical mark-ups – especially useful for trigger point injections.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A **CERTIFIED** PAIN MANAGEMENT EHR

The use of a certified pain management EMR/EHR software system is critical for any pain clinic seeking to utilize electronic medical and health records software not only to **improve the efficiency of the practice,** but also to recoup the costs of integration through the incentive funding of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Integration of ONC-ATCB (Office of the National Coordinator – Authorized Testing and Certification Body) certified EHR technology is a **necessary first step** for your pain management clinic **in obtaining incentive funding**.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A **CERTIFIED** PAIN MANAGEMENT EHR

Certified EHR technology **gives assurance** to purchasers and other users that an EHR system or module offers the **necessary technological capability, functionality, and security** to help them meet the meaningful use criteria. Certification also helps providers and patients be confident that the electronic health IT products and systems they use are secure, can **maintain data confidentially**, and can **work with other systems** to share information.

CLOUD BASED PAIN MANAGEMENT EMRS

Server based EMR systems were once the most popular option for many years. That is no longer the case thanks to matured cloud technology. For small to mid-sized pain clinics and physicians on the go, **the ability to securely access patient data** from any computer, iPad, desktop, tablet or pocket PC is indispensable.

CLOUD BASED PAIN MANAGEMENT EMRS

COST SAVINGS

With Web-based EMR, there is **no upfront investment** in hardware and software. Web based EMR offers the lowest monthly operating cost and the most affordable implementation.

System and data security utilized in web based EMR **exceed the minimum requirements** set forth by HIPAA. In many cases, the established security of data servers also exceeds what most healthcare providers use in a private practice.

SECURITY

ACCESS

You have **access to your medical records** even when you are not at the office. You always have the information available. Access your web based EMR from **anywhere in the world** where you have an active Internet connection.

Your **data is protected** against hardware and software failures through the use of fault-tolerant hardware and sophisticated, redundant data backups. You **never have to worry** about software maintenance and upgrades. All upgrades are managed server-side by your web based EHR vendor.

PROTECTION

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PAIN MANAGEMENT EMR
& **CUSTOMIZATION**

Every pain clinic is different from all the other clinics out there. You have your own staff, technology infrastructure, workflow, billing methods, etc. As discussed in a recent article**, appropriate customization was considered to be the key** to successful EMR implementation. Customization also allows office staff to reach the **highest levels of productivity** without impacting the quality of patient care or patient satisfaction. It has been proven that attempting to implement EMR systems that do not fit a provider's workflow or needs will not be successful.

PAIN MANAGEMENT EMR
& **CUSTOMIZATION**

Customization of your Pain Management EHR should include:

01 **Set up and configuration** of the Pain Management EMR for your clinic

02 **A customized look** and feel of the documents and forms produced by the software

03 Customized Pain Management EMR **templates in accordance with your specific requirements**.

04 **Help in configuring** the workflow within EMR and recommending necessary changes in your office workflow so that all the capabilities of your new EMR can be utilized.

05 **Sufficient training** to all your staff so that each of them understands the correct usage of various features of the EMR.

PAIN MANAGEMENT **TEMPLATES**

Templates are an important component of the EMR system. A "template" is essentially **a tool for organizing, presenting, and capturing clinical data** within the EMR. Use of templates allows practices to gather all relevant information for their workflow on a single convenient screen, while populating the information into the medical record.

Properly customized templates have been **proven to increase percentage of chart completion** thereby having a **direct impact on practice revenues**. They are built to chart clinical visits, consultations and procedures with your pain management patients in mind and can be readily incorporated into the daily routine of every physician at your clinic.

PAIN MANAGEMENT **TEMPLATES**

Pain Management specific templates will often include the following: Fluoroscopy, Arthritis, Sciatica, Lumbar puncture, Anesthesiology, Epidural, Intrathecal catheter, Spondylolisthesis, Bursa injections, Ganglion blocks, joint-specific pain Infusion pump replacements, Botulinum injection, Custom Pain Management SOAP Note Templates and Referral Letter Templates customized for the Pain Management Specialist.
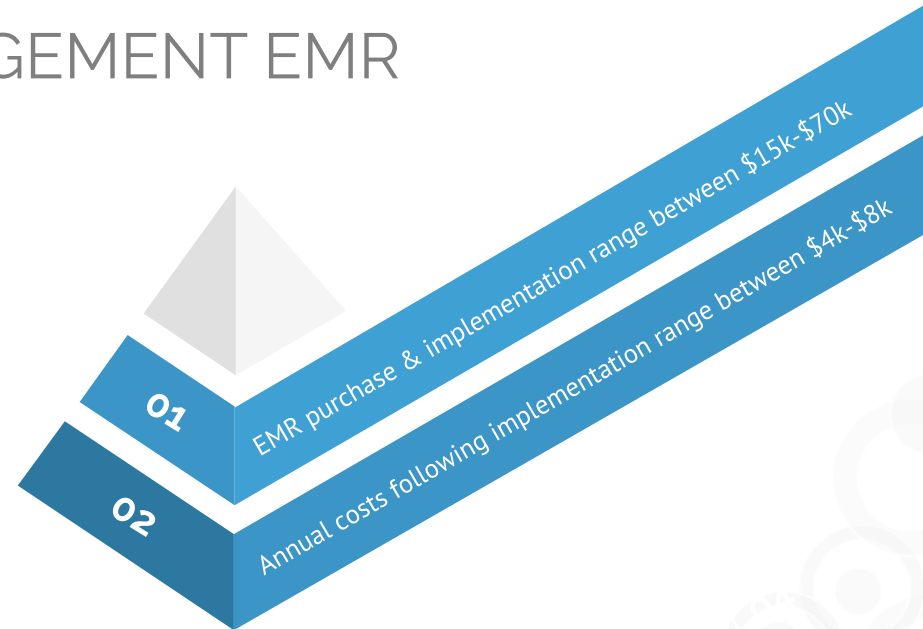
While the Pain Management EMR may come equipped with these templates, the **Pain Management vendor must work with you to customize the templates** you use often and train you so that you can make the required tweaks to the templates on your own at a later date.

Out of the box Pain Management content and EMR templates

THE COST OF A PAIN MANAGEMENT EMR

According to published sources like HealthIT.gov, EMR purchase and implementation **costs range between $15,000 and $70,000** in initial expense. Cloud-based implementations generally fall on the lower end of the range. Annual costs following implementation **range on average from $4,000 to $8,000 per year**. However, these costs do not include returns on investment that proper implementation can bring to pain management practices.
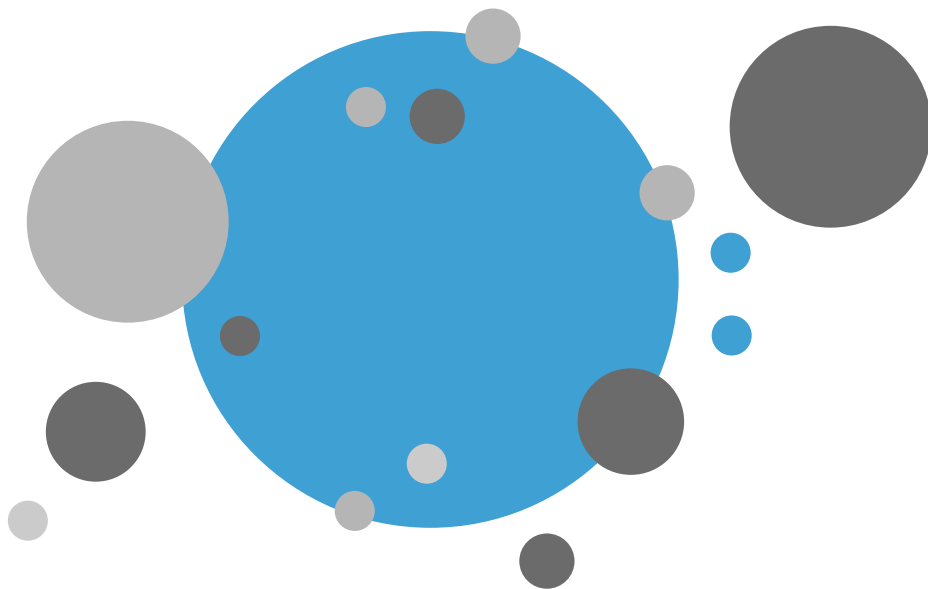
01

02

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THE COST OF A PAIN MANAGEMENT EMR

Costs of implementing Pain Management EMR have been **falling significantly** and are **as low as $300 per month** per provider for a comprehensive EMR and Practice Management Software system. In certain cases, the cost may be even lower. It does not hurt to call the EMR Vendors and get a ball park number before you spend lot of time for the demo and follow ups. Several EMR vendors are also **bundling free EMR software with very affordable medical billing services** and it does make a lot of sense if you already outsource your medical billing work to third parties.

THE RIGHT CHOICE **MATTERS**

The right choice in EMR can **make a huge difference in your organization. Bigger is not always better** – especially in the software industry and choosing a bigger software provider is no guarantee for a stable software solution. **Selecting a specialty EMR** that meets the unique needs of your practice reduces implementation woes and helps staff stay productive. Researching your options before making a decision increases the chance of selecting a solution that works and grows with your medical practice.

FREE DEMO

If your pain management office is in need of efficiency, organization or better technical solutions, check out the Pain Management EMR demo on our site to view the software for yourself or contact our specialists at 888-461-9998 for more information. RevenueXL sticks with you on the journey to a more efficient pain management office.