

CONTACT US ANYTIME



888 519 3100

www.emrconsultant.com

questions@ehrscope.com

INTRODUCTION TO EHR SCOPE

You probably are interested in this field because you wish to acquire this technology for your medical office, or on behalf of another person's medical office. If so, we will offer you a wealth of information, which will be updated monthly.

It is possible that you are a manufacturer or consultant in the industry, or merely have an interest in this technology. In any instance, we anticipate that this will be the most comprehensive compendium of EHR products available. An update will be presented in the middle of April with additional vendors.

In this edition you will find a Compendium which provides valuable information about hundreds of EHR products in North America. The Compendium includes descriptions of these products with links to their websites.

In addition, we will provide you with an overview of the EHR industry. We will discuss some of the terminology in the industry. For example, we will help you understand the difference between EMR and EHR. We will provide invaluable insight into the industry by interviewing prominent industry leaders.

One of the more important issues that physicians utilize in choosing an EHR is certification status. Specifically CCHIT CertificationSM is utilized by many in their decision making process. However, even this is not a simple straightforward concept.

First of all, CCHIT certification is not yet available for certain specialty specific EHRs, including emergency department software. It is also not available for certain patient populations, including specifically child care and long term care.

Therefore, we have allowed EHR Vendors to answer a simple Yes / No question about certification with a variety of options.

If they are CCHIT certified, it will clearly say so. If they currently are not so certified, the situation gets blurrier. Options include a simple No, or "No - But Intend To". These answers should be self-explanatory. Another option we have provided after many conversations on the subject is "No - But CCHIT Compliant". Please note that these companies have not been certified, and that therefore there is no official imprimatur, but in the opinion of the manufacturer, they would be able to obtain certification if they were to take the test.

Since there was testing on March 29th, 2007, and the results may not be available by the time this edition of EHR Scope is published, we offered "No - But Have Just Tested".

Finally, for certain programs, such as e-Prescribing programs, document management systems, Emergency Department software, etc., we have allowed "N/A - CCHIT Does Not Yet Certify our Specialty".

In this and future issues, we will explore why do physicians want an EHR, and when they should buy one. We will also delve into the issues of why other parties, such as the Federal and state governments, as well as a variety of insurance companies want you to have an EHR.

