



Health Information Technology: Private. Secure. Practical.



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Electronic Records are Secure

Similar to paper records, doctors' offices that use electronic health records (EHRs) must comply with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), as well as other state and federal laws on privacy. Patient privacy and security are built into all EHR systems. **Unlike paper records, EHRs can be built so that only authorized individuals can view them**, and there is a record of who reviewed each file.

System developers and governmental agencies are working hard to protect patient security and privacy. **EHR systems use state-of-the-art protection to block hackers** and those who might want access to private information without permission. Patients can rest assured their records are as safe as possible.

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Efficient and Lifesaving

Doctors are beginning to use electronic health records instead of paper. Just like with banks, technology is changing the way we do things. For health care, this change will be beneficial to patients and physicians.

As these new systems are installed, there will be a reduction in duplicate medical tests. With an electronic record system tied into a network, your doctor can send your test results to your other doctors electronically.

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Providers with electronic health records can join networks for health information exchange (HIE). **If your doctor does that and you have a medical emergency while traveling, it will be much easier for an emergency room doctor to obtain needed health records through an HIE.**

This could be a life-saving difference.