

ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD



Electronic Documentation: Digital Version of a Client's Medical Record

EMR:
personal record with basic health information for one practice

EHR:
personal record with extensive health information shared between practices

EMR =
electronic medical record

EHR =
electronic health record

Legal Liability Issues

- Copy and paste documentation: when a provider copies and pastes information from one part of chart of an electronic chart to another
- Risks: can lead to transfer of inaccurate data within a chart; can rapidly propagate errors; can lead to inconsistencies between ROS and HPI; can include redundant or outdated information

Check your organization's policies regarding safe electronic charting practices to reduce risks to client safety.

Benefits and Disadvantages of EMR/EHR

Benefits

Centralizes client's care and records

Streamlines communication

Multidisciplinary access

Allows flagging, trending and screening of client status

Facilitates direct client care (MAR, allergy checks, etc.)

Reduces medical errors

Increases availability of data for research

Disadvantages

Cybersecurity risks

Requires frequent upgrades to hardware and software

Technology failures can lead inability to access records.

Technical support required

Privacy concerns, increased access from staff

Key Components of HIPAA Compliance for EMR/EHR



Authorization: Employees only have access to minimum necessary information.



Audits & Alerts: automatically logs each user's activity at all times



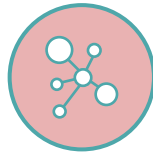
Authentication: Each user must log in individually and only have access to appropriate records.



Encryption: All data should be encrypted.



Automatic Logoff: sessions terminated after period of inactivity



Hosting & Infrastructure: must use HIPAA-compliant hosting platforms



Business Associate Addendum: Any 3rd party providers with access to client information must sign a BAA contract.

NOTES

