

A HISTORY OF ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS



Today, it's easy to dismiss electronic medical records as a substitute for paper record keeping and little else.



A doctor in 1940 transported to today would be shocked at the changes in healthcare due to electronic record keeping, which has changed the course of medical science as we know it.

The real history of electronic medical records dates back to the late 1960s with problem-oriented medical records – that is, medical records as we understand them today.



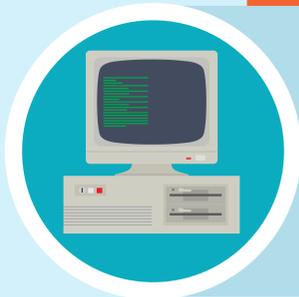
Larry Weed, MD's 'Problem-Oriented Medical Record' was a breakthrough in medical recording:

1960s

Dr. Weed's innovation allowed third party facilities to independently verify the diagnosis.

Before Dr. Weed's system, a doctor only had access to their diagnosis and the treatment provided.

Now, new doctor's had access to a patient's entire medical history.



The First Electronic Medical Records System

The Regenstreif Institute develops the first EMR system, but the system fails to attract many physicians.

1972

By the late 1980s, low-cost PCs gave way to the wide spread adoption of EMR.

Large hospitals could now provide the same level of servicing for each patient without worrying about specific doctor-patient relationships. However, the technology didn't really gain traction with smaller facilities or private practices.

1980s



Regardless of their adoption rate, many practice management functions (such as billing & scheduling) were being moved to computers.

The establishment of the Internet made accessing health information online easier than ever, setting the stage for web-based EMRs.

1990s



1991

The Institute of Medicine recommended that by the year 2000, every physician should be using computers to improve patient care.

President Barack Obama signs ARRA Into Law.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides incentives for healthcare facilities who demonstrate "meaningful use" of electronic medical records.

2009



TODAY

Today, electronic medical records are increasingly paperless.

Patient records are more accessible than ever before in theory, meaning that data technology is on the verge of becoming fully portable and comprehensive. Even with all the advancements in EMR technology, 70% of physicians are unhappy with their current system. Specialists especially have difficulties adapting to their EMR software due to their different needs and areas of focus.

However, EMRs are becoming increasingly specialized for different areas of practice and environments, allowing you to easily streamline workflows, improve data entry and increase doctor - patient interaction.

FUTURE



Refer to **nethealth.com** for more information.

Feel free to reach out with questions.

