How to choose a Reliable Medical Billing Service

A White Paper by CureMD

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Purpose of this Document
This document is a white paper on how practices can benefit from cloud based services.
How to choose a reliable Medical Billing Service

1. Selecting the Right Solution
2. Transitioning to Your New System
3. The Ideal Setting for Electronic Health Records
1. Selecting the Right Solution

Shifting to the latest version of Medical Billing and Practice Management Solutions can be attributed to several different reasons. You might not be content with the features of your old system. It might be too slow in claims processing and reimbursements. It might not be compatible with your current hardware systems and devices or you might simply think that it is outdated and slows down your administrative and financial workflows.

Implementing any system that directly handles your daily workload is not an easy decision and should not be taken without the proper research.

Before venturing on the quest for the ideal Medical Billing Service, you need to note what you like and dislike about your current system. Make this into a formal list and use it as a guiding beacon to decide what you would ideally want from your new system. Look for the solution that others the features, functionalities and the type of interface you want. Next, start talking to different vendors and tell them what issues you faced with your old system and what you want with your new system.

Essentially, listed below there are a couple of proven steps that you need to take when communicating with vendors.
1. Reference Checks
2. Required Training
3. Basic Features
4. HIPAA Compliance
5. Costs
It is always a good idea to discuss the performance and service of your potential vendor with its existing clients. Contact those references and check if they are satisfied. Ask your vendor about their training and support structure and the time it takes them to train clients. Look at the basic features of the software and check if it is compliant with HIPAA. Do look at the cost structure and know the total upfront costs.

After you have chosen the ideal software for your practice, you need to start preparing for the actual conversion. This involves data migration where all your data including patient accounts would be shifted onto your new system. Even though many have faced a lot of issues in this phase, there are many who recommend a good amount of planning, communication, and decision-making to ensure success.

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Transitioning to Your New System

When you are done selecting your system, it is finally time for the conversion. Since your new system directly affects your administrative and financial workflows, meaning that it directly affects your productivity and profitability; it is imperative to make sure that the new software and system is properly implemented.

Next, you need to ask yourself the following questions which would essentially guide you in the process of conversion.

1. Can the data be easily converted? Is the data format compatible with the new system?
2. What are the overall costs of data migration?
3. How much time will the conversion take?
4. Can you run both your old and new systems simultaneously?

There is a high probability that your old data might not be that easily convertible to the new system as you might have thought. The reasons for this issue include data being duplicated or data previously stored in out-dated formats or computer languages.

You will need to notify your patients about the changes taking place and avail this opportunity to contact them and update their records. In essence, proper planning and research will make this transition smooth. This might also be the right opportunity for you to take a look at Electronic Health Records.
The Ideal Setting for Electronic Health Records

There are several reasons why care providers are increasingly implementing Electronic Health Record solutions. With the increasing regulations from the government, it is now becoming essential to get on the EHR bandwagon and avail the many benefits this system has to offer including incentives and reimbursements.

Change is always tough when you are used to using a system in a specific manner. Many care providers fear this change and miss out what the latest technology brings, but if you are already changing one system at your practice, you might as well look to streamline workflows through EHR.

Therefore, this might be the ideal time to consider an EHR. As with the Medical Billing Service and Practice Management System, the selection of an ideal EHR also depends on planning, research and knowing what you want. The following questions will determine your EHR readiness, selection and implementation.

1. Are you ready for Electronic Health Records?
2. What do you expect from your EHR?
3. Do you have an implementation plan?

Do you have a plan yet? If you want to implement an EHR for your practice, you need to know what you need and want from the solution, how it will affect the workflows and what each member of the staff needs to do in order to synergistically implement it. Remember, although the implementation of an EHR may take it, it will be worth the effort.
About CureMD

CureMD is an award winning provider of SMART Cloud EHR, Practice Management, Patient Portal and Medical Billing service, designed to optimize outcomes, quality and financial returns. With thousands of satisfied customers across the nation, CureMD has maintained a 99% customer retention rate since 1997. In a recent KLAS Research publication "SaaS EMR, Is it for you - 2012", CureMD was ranked number 1 SaaS EMR for its web-based, easy to use, quick go-live solution that delivers the highest ROI.

For more information:
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