

Inside Perspective

Helping you unleash the full power of MEDITECH

Electronic newsletter published every 8 weeks

Advancing your clinical system – MEDITECH can help get you there

Hoda Sayed Friel, Vice President Marketing, MEDITECH

The challenges of treating patients with chronic conditions, contending with clinical staff shortages, and keeping up with federal regulations for patient safety can be daunting for many health care organizations. Today, it is more important than ever for care providers to have immediate access to the full patient record across the acute and ambulatory environment, to be able to track and trend patients everywhere in the enterprise, and to document care at the patient's bedside. In addition, care providers require tools to assist with safe ordering and administration of medications, as well as on-line notification of critical events and results.

MEDITECH can help your organization expand the capabilities of your clinical information systems and meet these challenges. We can assist you with planning, budgeting, and implementing solutions to help achieve your individual goals in three years or less.

MEDITECH's advanced clinical offerings

As health care organizations contend with clinical staff shortages, care providers are expected to treat an increasing number of higher acuity patients efficiently, all while maintaining the highest safety standards.

The health care environment today demands that organizations work to:

- Increase patient safety by improving communication and preventing adverse drug reactions
- Coordinate care delivery by bringing together the acute and ambulatory environment
- Streamline clinical workflow by providing intuitive, easy-to-use tools.

MEDITECH's advanced clinical offerings can respond to these demands and help organizations improve their information systems capabilities and on-line tools for care providers. Our products include:

- Patient Care System, including a Status Board to help nurses document care and manage their workloads
- Physician Care Manager, which enables physicians to easily manage all their patient populations through a single point-of-entry
- Medical & Practice Management, to capture patient information in the physician's office and share this data across the enterprise
- Bedside Medication Verification, for administering medications safely
- Emergency Department Management, including an on-line tracker and physician documentation
- Patient Discharge Instructions, to assist with the departing process in the emergency department and meeting JCAHO requirements for patient education.

These applications offer a variety of benefits that can help your organization to move forward with patient safety initiatives and to provide higher quality care.

For example, The Patient Care System provides clinicians with the electronic documentation tools needed to streamline the patient care process. Clinical assessments suggest a plan of care, interventions, and outcomes, to help clinicians deliver patient-focused, efficient care. In addition, with MEDITECH's bar code scanning technology, providers scan wristbands to confirm the "five rights" -- right patient, right drug, right dosage, right route, and right time. The system then alerts caregivers to potential problems prior to medication administration, based on information contained in the patient's medication administration record.

Also, clinical decision support tools help providers to create a safer care environment by alerting them to allergies, interactions, and other potential dangers during the ordering process. Conflict checking capabilities warn physicians of allergies, drug interactions, and dose miscalculations, so providers are

able to alter medication therapies. MEDITECH's Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) software incorporates conflict checking, plus the additional support of user-defined rules for upholding organizations' clinical policies and procedures.

Strategic Planning – A three year plan

MEDITECH is prepared to help your organization plan, budget, and implement an advanced clinical information system, in three years or less. There are several flexible options to choose from, depending on your organization's strategic goals, budget, and current clinical foundation applications.

For instance, your organization may choose to begin advancing its clinical information system by bringing the nurses on line, using the Patient Care System to take advantage of the inherent safety checks and prioritize their workloads through the status board. Then, nurses may use Bedside Medication Verification to administer medications safely. Or, since 40-60% of patient populations often enter through the Emergency Department, your facility may choose to begin implementing the Emergency Department Management application first.

Remember that you are not alone in your efforts to overcome the hurdles of today's health care landscape. Together, we can establish a three-year strategic plan that is well-suited to your facility's needs and requirements. Many challenges lie ahead. We look forward to working with you, to meet them head-on.

Hoda Sayed Friel is Vice President of Marketing at MEDITECH. Please email questions or comments to editor@jjwild.com.

Published by [JJWild](#)
Copyright © 2004 JJWild. All rights reserved.