

significantly reduce loss of productivity and avoid costly delays during their transition to **e-Health Method™**.

The GMD planning workshop facilitation team provides a “low tech, high touch” approach in its tried and proven **Stakeholder Planning Method (SPM)**. The custom migration plans produced using SPM and GMD facilitation are based on the cross-practice points-of-view of physicians, other medical professionals, and administrators. Our planning workshops open the opportunity for quality and workflow improvement, while creating sound migration plans.



**GMD's Stockholder Planning Method (SPM)**



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# **e-Health Method™**

*...an Internet EMR service*



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## **Planning the Transition... from Paper to EMR:**

### *A Pocket Guide*



**Contact us and start your plan for success.**

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## Planning the Transition... from Paper to Electronic Medical Records (EMR): A Pocket Guide

### Medical Records in Context

The transition from paper to electronic medical records is a complex undertaking. Because more than one in four practices have made the migration and are using an EMR system or an EMR service, we can observe the successes of pioneers and create guides. This guide begins with a short perspective on medical records.



*Medical records are an integral part of medical practice.* Therefore, any project undertaken by a practice to transition from paper based medical records to use of an EMR requires the management of change from at least

these aspects—

- Clinically
- Administratively
- Culturally
- Organizationally.

To create and conduct a successful transition project, the process changes inherent in the use of the a new tool must be carefully planned and managed. These additional elements must also be included:

- Technical training
- Procedural training

- Changes to clinical and staff roles

### First, do no harm...

During the transition from paper to EMR, great care in planning and execution must be taken to avoid negative impact in the following areas:

- Patient-physician relationship
- Integrity of the clinical process or continuity of care

### Principles for your plan

Adhering to these principles in planning and conducting your transition will ensure that no harm is done:

- Patient information must be secure
- Privacy of patient information must be maintained
- Integrity of medical record content must be maintained
- Integrity of clinical workflow supported by the medical record must be maintained
- Continuity and quality of care must be maintained

### Transition: A top barrier to EMR

In a 2005 survey where 2,879 group practices responded, physicians and office managers

frequently cited issues related to electronic medical records (EMR). They ranked the issues as barriers to successfully implementing EMRs. Among the practices without EMR systems or service, the anticipated transition to EMRs ranked third on the complete list of fifteen barriers they identified. (The top two barriers were lack of capital resources and concern about physicians' ability to input information into an EMR.)

### Call GMD for planning assistance

GMD's **e-Health Method™**, a subscriber EMR service, requires no up-front capital investment for servers or database license fees. Much of the input into **e-Health Method™** is accomplished using template checkoff lists.

Clients use GMD's planning facilitation experts to create migration/transition plans. The resulting custom plans enable clients to

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