



# Five Reasons Your Doctor is Using an Electronic Health Record (EHR) System

An EHR system allows the practice to put your health care information into a computer. Recent studies have shown health care information technology improves quality, safety, and efficiency.

EHR systems have many benefits for patients:

**1 Minimize waiting time.**

Medical records are easily and conveniently accessed, not only in the office where a patient has an appointment, but also from other offices and hospitals where he/she may need to go for care.

**2 Assure that what's written in your medical records is clear to all your doctors and health care providers.**

Computer technology means that there is no handwriting to decipher. As a result, health care providers will understand patient health care information more easily and be better prepared to care for each patient appropriately and effectively.

**3 Increase patient safety.**

Clear documentation provided by an EHR system helps to reduce medical and prescription errors.

**4 Help You to Better Communicate with Your Doctors and Other Healthcare Providers.**

EHR systems allow messages from a patient to get to a doctor quickly because they can be sent electronically. Also, doctors do not need paper records, such as a patient chart, before they talk to a patient. The records are stored on a computer that the doctor can access easily.

**5 Increase the likelihood of illness prevention and successful treatment.**

EHR systems can provide tracking functions that remind patients to get preventive immunizations, such as flu shots; regular tests that are part of patient treatment plans; or screening procedures, such as mammographies and colonoscopies.