TRANSCRIPTION IN THE EMR ENVIRONMENT

Studies have demonstrated that the most efficient, accurate and provider-preferred way to construct the record of a patient encounter is by the dictation/transcription process.

The result of a dictated note is patient-specific and concise. The result of a template-driven note is a generalization based on available templates and, in some cases, edited speech recognition (SR).

**An Example Based on Revenue of $200 per Patient:**

1. It generally takes several minutes longer to navigate the EMR template/SR process than to dictate a patient encounter.
2. An average of 20 patients per day per provider x 4 minutes lost templating equates to 80 minutes lost from patient care.
3. 80 minutes equates to 3.3 patients and revenue of $660 per day per provider.
4. 21 workdays per month equates to $13,860 per month, versus $500-$1,000 per month of transcription costs per provider.
5. Even if the time studies are off by a factor or 2 or 3, dictation is clearly the better choice.

### Facts:

1. Dictation can be done by phone or recorder from anywhere and requires no direct interaction with a computer. No change is required in the provider’s routine.
2. Transcription companies can interface with EMR systems to deliver transcribed notes directly into the patient records in the EMR.
3. Transcription companies can embed “Meaningful Use” data in the transcribed documents, facilitating the Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement options.
4. Given the choice, most providers prefer to dictate rather than having to input data into a computer.

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