



Health Care Trends

Top 10 Under-the-Radar Health Care Trends for 2013

By Tony Schueth, Editor in Chief, and Maria Friedman, Senior Consultant

It's traditional this time of year to take stock of where we've been and to look ahead to where we are going. Many consultants and organizations have already dusted off their crystal balls and opined about health care trends that will be important in 2013.

Mostly everyone can rattle off a bunch of them: meaningful use, accountable care organizations (ACOs), state health insurance exchanges, electronic health record (EHR) implementation, the transition to the *International Classification of Diseases*, 10th edition (ICD-10), and Medicaid expansion resulting from the Affordable Care Act (ACA)...

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eMedical Management

Putting the "HIE" in eMedication Management

By Ed Daniels, Senior Consultant

More than 3.5 billion prescriptions are written in the United States each year, driving a drug spend of \$249 billion. These costs, which represent 10% of all U.S. health care spending, produce huge benefits, including improved quality of life and reduced morbidity and mortality, that go far beyond anything that can be expressed in financial terms...

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ePrescribing

Studies Validate Benefits of ePrescribing Over Paper and Highlight Room for Improvement

By Kim Ball, Project Manager

Back when electronic prescribing (ePrescribing) was in its infancy, many of us accepted its benefits as leaps of faith. Now that the technology is maturing, there is emerging empirical evidence that validates its benefits and additionally documents problems with both paper and electronic prescriptions.

In three recent studies, researchers found high error rates in paper prescriptions; illegibility remains a significant problem and is still a major culprit behind errors that could potentially harm patients.

Many of these errors could be prevented if the prescribers were using an ePrescribing system. Prescription errors also lead to significant rework in physician offices and pharmacies, which is costing us billions of dollars annually in problem resolution and prescription redos...

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