Organization Name:

Evans Medical Group

Organization Address:

465 North Belair Rd, Ste. 1B
Evans, GA 30809

Organization Contact:

Robert Lamberts, MD

Schema Archetype

Outpatient Group Practice –Multispecialty

Schema Factors

Outpatient, Office Practice, Medicine-Pediatrics, <5 Providers
Urban, Non-Academic

Organization Summary

Evans Medical Group is a small multi-specialty group of medicine-pediatrics (med-ped) physicians and pediatricians.

IT Environment

Evans Medical Group was a beta test site for MedicaLogic's Logician, which provided them with discounted services and training. MedicaLogic provided Evans Medical Group with the *Encounter Form Editor*, which allowed the practice to build custom encounter forms, data display templates, and rules for alerts and reminders.

CDS Achievement

Encounter Form Editor also enabled Evans Medical Group to design custom clinical content using the latest disease management tools and the most current medical evidence to greatly enhance the quality of care. For example, in addition to applying the latest cholesterol and hypertension guidelines, the tool calculated cardiac risks using patient data entered into the Framingham cardiac risk formula.

Not only did these forms improve the clinicians' understanding and care of patients, they have also been effective tools for patient education. When patients are shown

their cardiac risks with and without smoking, it creates better outcomes than simple smoke cessation education.

Similarly, by simulating the benefits of lower blood pressure on the risk calculator, both the patient and the provider were motivated by the potential improvement in health outcomes. This shared understanding greatly helps provider-patient communication, and is much more effective than the provider simply "throwing a pill" at the patient.

Lessons Learned

Many physicians were semi-interested in about health IT, but they were not dissatisfied enough with the current way of doing things that they saw any point in the radical changes needed for the implementation of health IT. However, the physician champion needs to understand these reluctant physicians are often the norm. One of the best ways to move forward is to lead by example. Instead of giving speeches to woo adoption, the physician champion should be using the system so well that other physicians couldn't help but want to use it. *If the physician champion can show his/her colleagues that health IT works better than the old way and truly makes life easier, they often have no problem changing.* This will also help the physician champion to pilot the tool to work out any "bugs" that might otherwise have discouraged early adopters.

Awards, Recognitions, and Citations

2003 Davies Ambulatory Care Award Winner
 (http://www.himss.org/content/files/davies_2003_primarycare_evans.pdf)
Beta test site for Logician
Past President of Logician User Group