## **Performance & Final Submission Phase**

## **Project Demonstration**

Team Id	NM2023TMID04415
Project Name	Block Chain Technology
	For Electronic Health
	Records

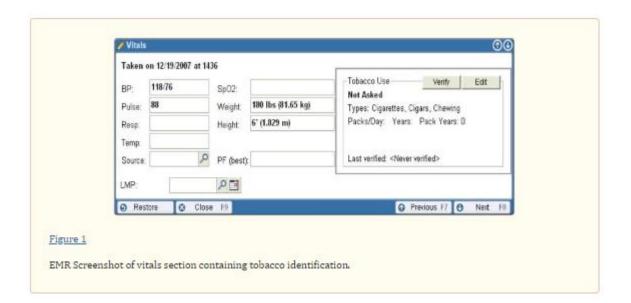
#### **INTRODUCTION:**

More than 70% of smokers visit a primary care physician annually, making the health care visit an unequalled opportunity to assist smokers willing to make a quit attempt. Despite substantial evidence that brief cessation interventions during primary care visits promote quitting in different populations, smokers consistently leave these appointments without receiving evidence-based counseling and medication.2-10 Among the factors contributing to this lost opportunity is the fact that few primary care patients visit their clinician with tobacco dependence as their chief complaint, and brief clinic visits are consumed by other presenting problems/symptoms. This focus on the "chief complaint" and the "presenting symptoms" rather than on tobacco use (which is often the primary cause of those symptoms), is highlighted by the fact that the average doctor's appointment is only 23.8 minutes for a prepaid visit and 21.0 minutes for a nonprepaid visit. 11 This chief complaint focus is also accentuated by the fact that few clinics have systems in

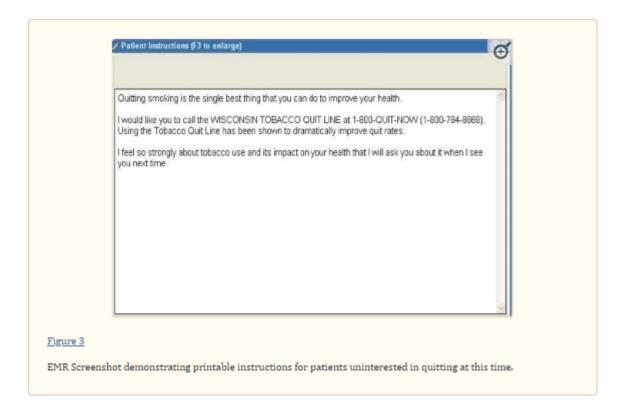
place to efficiently identify and intervene with preventable causes of illness and death, including tobacco dependence.

# Design Overview:

The goal of this project was to adapt the electronic medical record of a major Wisconsin healthcare system to better identify and intervene with tobacco users in the context of a busy office visit. From February 2007 to January 2008, key staff members from Dean Health Systems (Dean) and the University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention (UW-CTRI) met regularly to develop modifications to the Epic Systems Corporation electronic medical record (EMR) program already in use at Dean. Once adapted, the EMR modifications were tested in a pilot clinic before more wide-scale implementation in primary care clinics across the Dean system. The working group at these meetings included Dean representatives (a physician champion as well as health education and information technology specialists) and UW-CTRI representatives (the physician Director and members of the outreach staff who work directly with clinics across Wisconsin to implement evidence-based tobacco dependence systems).







## Discussion:

In conclusion, this project demonstrated the capacity of a large health care system to implement enhanced tobacco dependence treatment interventions across their primary care clinics, utilizing the potential of the EMR platform. Associated with this enhancement was a statistically significant increase in rates of smoker identification and relatively high rates of clinical intervention with adult patients who smoke. The results are promising regarding the feasibility and potential of the EMR to influence the delivery of tobacco dependence clinical treatments.

