

CASE STUDY

OncoEMR® Optimizes Clinical Decision Making and Reduces Costs



PRACTICE:
South Carolina Oncology Associates (SCOA)

- 18 physicians
- 11 advanced practice practitioners
- 800 patients per day

CHALLENGES

South Carolina Oncology Associates (SCOA), a multi-specialty community oncology practice based in Columbia, SC, was struggling to ensure all patient information needed for clinical decision making was collected and reflected in the EHR. They were using paper charts to fill in gaps, but this required significant staff time and resources. Additionally, their previous EHR was not certified for meaningful use and was located on-site, resulting in significant hardware and maintenance costs.

SOLUTION

After meeting with the Flatiron Health team, SCOA quickly discovered that OncoEMR could provide all clinical and patient information needed to make quality care decisions and diagnoses, and all patient information was available in one place.



Clinical summary, documents and physician note pages were seamlessly integrated to streamline physician workflows



Inbound / outbound faxing made communication with referring physicians faster and easier, providing patient updates and documentation in minutes



SeeYourChart® patient portal, integrated with OncoEMR, allowed patients to view their charts and lab results, and communicate with the practice securely online, resulting in reduced calls to the front desk



When we saw what OncoEMR could do, we were thrilled to discover how it thinks like an oncologist. Everything we needed was right at our fingertips – the labs, flow sheet, and treatment plan. With the huge patient volume we have here, this is extremely helpful to us.

Fred Kudrik, MD
President and Managing Partner,
South Carolina
Oncology Associates

IMPACT

- ✓ Over \$1M savings in Year 1 due to elimination of medical record supplies and hardware costs, and reduction of contract staff
- ✓ Faster and easier access to clinical and patient data resulted in streamlined workflows for physicians and staff and improved the patient experience
- ✓ \$500K projected annual staff reduction savings

TIPS FOR CHOOSING AND IMPLEMENTING AN EHR

- ✓ **Oncology-specific:** The EHR should think like an oncologist
- ✓ **Cloud-based solution:** This reduces hardware and upgrade costs
- ✓ **Shared vision:** When your vendor has the best interests of the patient in mind, you benefit from true partnership
- ✓ **Physician committee:** Identify physician champions to facilitate adoption and ensure needs are addressed across the practice
- ✓ **Back-loading:** Load all of the critical patient and clinical information into the system before go-live. It will determine the success of practice-wide adoption and minimize delays in workflow
- ✓ **Flexibility:** Be open to how the system can help you fix workflows and address issues in ways you would not be able to otherwise



We knew that we needed to change and prepare for more complex industry reporting requirements, but we were worried about compromising patient care and workflow efficiencies. OncoEMR was the perfect solution for us because of its built-in oncology specific workflows and regimens available at the point of care.

Frank Sobash
Chief Executive Officer,
South Carolina
Oncology Associates