**Overview:**

Physicians groups consist of a group of physicians that may provide services through a number of different clinics. They may also provide services within a hospital setting. When they order tests or treatments for their patients they will be performed by various ancillary departments, such as laboratory, radiology, or physical therapy departments. Each ancillary department will transmit the patient results back to the hospital or clinic that they are associated with. For a physician group that services multiple organizations this can create a complex environment of disparate systems.

In this type of environment the physicians need to have access to each of the different systems in order to view their patient results. Where the patient results are delivered and stored will depend on where the service was performed. Managing this type of environment creates a level of confusion and complexity for the physicians and their staff that can lead to delays and affect how they are able to provide patient care.

**Recommendation:**

The proposed solution is to provide a single portal for the physicians that will store all of their results from any of the entities that provide their services.

**Expected Benefits:**

This will improve efficiency in the office and it will also help to avoid mistakes caused by the current need to look for information in multiple systems. Having all of the patient data in a single database will also allow the physicians group to perform statistical analysis against the data, such as providing the group a list of the most common tests that the physicians order. Such analysis again will help to improve the efficiency of the office.

**Market Analysis:**

There are many different companies that offer various types of physician portal solutions. Many of the larger healthcare software developers, such as Epic and Cerner, offer a portal solution that is an overlay to their own clinic EHR (Electronic Health Record) products. These solutions can be costly, but also limited, in that they are designed to integrate with a single specific software product. Although it is a competitive market, I feel there is room for a low cost alternative that has the ability to integrate with software products from different vendors.