



Western Physicians' Alliance



NEWSLETTER

October 2014

Population Health Management

A prerequisite for any Population Health Management, (PHM) data strategy is the implementation of electronic health records (EHRs). But, even though a majority of physicians now have some kind of EHR, many do not. So the communications piece of PHM must include the capability to push clinical data to providers who don't have EHRs. EHRs enable providers to store and retrieve data, but they lack many of the tools required for implementing and automating PHM.

Moreover, while many EHRs contain patient portals, they are not designed to connect individual care alerts with patient outreach. Consequently, organizations that seek to do PHM must supplement their EHRs with third-party applications of various kinds. The most important kind of enhancement is an electronic, population-wide patient registry. Such a registry lists all patients' health problems, the healthcare services that have been provided to them, the dates when they were provided, their lab results, and other information. Among other things, registries and associated analytic software can be used to:

- Stratify populations by health risk
- Identify care gaps

- Alert providers and care managers about unmet patient health needs

The data required to compile a comprehensive registry extends beyond the information contained in a single organization's EHR. Ideally, the registry should also encompass data on services that have been rendered to patients outside of the organization and, sometimes, outside of the geographical area in which patients usually receive healthcare.

Conclusion:

As the healthcare industry moves toward value-based reimbursement and various forms of financial risk, it is evident that PHM will be an invaluable strategy. The time to prepare for PHM is now, and the analytic and automation tools needed to build the necessary infrastructure are available. The biggest challenge facing providers who go down this road will be changing their culture and their orientation from the model of treating one patient at a time to managing the health of their population.

Contact WPA for more information at 775-827-5775.

Western Physicians' Alliance
 6490 South McCarran Blvd., C-24
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Current Resident or

Prominence
 Health Plan
Formerly Saint Mary's Health Plans

HealthFirst HMO Urgent Care Locations – Northern Nevada

Facility	Address	City	Zip	Telephone	Hours*
Incline Village					
Incline Village Urgent Care	930 Tahoe Blvd. #207	Incline Village	89451	775-833-2929	Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm Sat 9am – 12pm
Reno					
Concentra Urgent Care	6410 S. Virginia St.	Reno	89511	775-322-5757	Mon – Fri 7am – 7pm Sat 9am – 4pm
Saint Mary's Urgent Care at Galena	18653 Wedge Pkwy. #300	Reno	89511	775-770-7210	Mon – Fri 8am – 7:30pm Sat – Sun 9am – 4:30pm
Saint Mary's Urgent Care Northwest	1595 Robb Dr. #2	Reno	89523	775-770-7580	Mon – Fri 8am – 7:30pm Sat – Sun 9am – 4:30pm
South Virginia Medical Center	6580 S. Virginia St.	Reno	89511	775-853-9959	Mon – Fri 9am – 6pm
South Lake Tahoe					
Tahoe Urgent Care	2130 Lake Tahoe Blvd.	South Lake Tahoe	96150	530-541-3277	7 Days a week 8am – 5pm
Sparks					
ARC Health & Wellness Centers	2205 Glendale Ave. #131	Sparks	89431	775-331-3361	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Concentra Urgent Care	255 Glendale Ave. #12	Sparks	89431	775-356-8181	Mon – Fri 7am – 6pm
Saint Mary's Urgent Care at Spanish Springs	5070 Ion Dr. #100	Sparks	89436	775-770-7727	Mon – Fri 8am – 7:30pm Sat – Sun 9am – 4:30pm
Stateline					
Tahoe Carson Valley Medical Group – Stateline Medical Center	155 Hwy. 50	Stateline	89449	775-589-8900	Mon – Fri 8am – 6pm Sat - Sun 9am – 5pm