

Q2: POSITIVE ASPECTS OF EMR SYSTEMS

Q2: Do the people you represent believe that any of the following statements about electronic medical records are true?

Appendix pages 8-25

Believed to be true by almost two thirds of respondents.

In 2nd place: EMRs are capable of delivering a complete medical history (or, in other words, each patient's whole medical story). Believed to be true by 62% of respondents.

In 3rd place: EMRs will make healthcare services more efficient and accessible. Believed to be true by 59% of respondents.

In 4th place: EMRs will reduce current levels of medical accidents. Believed to be true by half of the respondent body.

In 5th place: EMRs will provide enhanced clinical support to researchers—thus contributing to better clinical outcomes. Believed to be true by 48% of respondents.

Quantifying the benefits

Out of 15 possible advantages that EMRs could bring to patients [see list, right], respondent health campaigners approved most of the following five benefits:

In 1st place: EMRs will supply health professionals (wherever they happen to be) with patient data the instant it is needed—thus improving medicine.

Respondents were asked to comment on fifteen possible benefits of EMRs

1. Put users at the centre of healthcare systems, and are empowering.
2. Bring information to patients immediately it is needed.
3. Enable patients to manage their own care.
4. Enable patients to add their own comments to their medical records.
5. Enable patients to check what medical professionals say about them.
6. Bring transparency to the doctor-patient relationship.
7. Encourage doctor-patient partnerships.
8. Bring information to health professionals immediately they need it.
9. Ensure that all health professionals have access to a complete medical history.
10. Enable doctors to provide better clinical support to their patients, so improving outcomes.
11. Help harmonise and standardise medical practice.
12. Reduce the chance of medical accidents (such as repeat tests) from occurring.
13. Make healthcare services (such as the ordering of repeat prescriptions, or the reviewing of test results) more efficient and accessible.
14. Help monitor the spread of infectious and other diseases.
15. Permit greater and more sophisticated analyses of clinical data.