Why is the Epic EHR system currently such a problem for Vascular Surgeons/Specialists? Can it be improved? Are there better systems?

November 14, 2018
Timothy F. Kresowik M.D.
Professor of Surgery (Vascular)
University of Iowa College of Medicine

EHR Frustration
- Documentation Requirements
  - Evaluation and Management (E&M) billing
  - Performance measures, meaningful use of electronic medical records, prior authorization, and compliance
  - Joint Commission accreditation
  - Coding (CPT, ICD10)
- Quality, Safety and Efficiency
  - Complex order sets and case requests
  - Defined fields vs. free text
  - Poor design of alerts (BPA’s)

EHR benefits
- Remote access
- Electronic image transfer
- Organization and rapid search capability
- Voice recognition dictation
- Smartlinks/Smartphrases/Smartforms
- Patient Portals/My Chart

Same EHR: Why So Different?

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Epic issues for Vascular Surgeons

- Epic built in Silo’s
- Single-specialty focus
- Initially no Vascular Surgery steering board

Vascular Surgeons

- Chronic care (Epic ambulatory), OR (Op-time)
- Vascular lab (Radiant, Cardiant), Cath lab (Cardiant), Hybrid rooms
- Procedure documentation and workflow
- Reports and image location

Epic Vascular Surgery Steering Board

- Order Sets/Case Requests
- Procedure reporting
- Vascular Lab
- VQI entry
- Vascular History
- Foundation content

Case Request Order Sets

- Vascular Lab
- VQI entry

Smartphones

- Schedule/Status board
- Note entry (voice entry)
- Photos
  - HIPAA compliant (not stored on device)
  - Directly into patient record
- Critical alerts
- Epic to Outlook Integration
  - PHI protected
Why is the Epic EHR system currently such a problem for Vascular Surgeons/Specialists?
Can it be improved? Yes
Are there better systems? No