

Akamai PM & Electronic Medical Records

Akamai works with most EMRs

At Akamai Practice Management, we are proud to work cooperatively with a wide variety of electronic medical record (EMR) companies. Akamai is committed to assuring that Hawaii's physicians can choose the clinical system that best fits their practice, and still have the security that comes from using what hundreds of Hawaii doctors have determined to be the best administrative-scheduling-financial system available; Akamai PM.

How the integration works

Akamai PM is designed to integrate with the vast majority of EMR products. This means that registration and scheduling can be done in Akamai PM and the associated information will flow seamlessly to the EMR. Conversely, charge data generated through the note-taking process in the EMR can stream back to Akamai PM for billing and claims processing.

This process is most often possible because of Akamai's adherence to a national standard for data transfer between practice management and EMR systems. This standard, known as Health Level Seven (or "HL7"), is used by most EMR companies to allow the physician's office to select the EMR / practice management software combination that best benefits their practice.

However, Akamai's integration capabilities are not limited to systems that adhere to the HL7 standard. We interface with a number of EMRs that required custom programming.

What products will Akamai PM integrate with?

Akamai PM is either in live-production or has been successfully tested with over forty clinical systems. Akamai PM has been designated the preferred practice management system in Hawaii for many of these EMRs. A list of qualified EMRs is attached at the end of this document.

Our list includes nearly all of the most commonly used EMR systems in Hawaii including: Epic (with both HPH and Queen's), Elation, Amazing Charts and eClinicalWorks plus many specialty-specific EMRs for ophthalmology, nephrology and oncology. Eight out of the top ten most frequently used EMR programs in Hawaii integrate with Akamai. With the exception of the Enterprise version of Allscripts, over eighty percent of the physicians in Hawaii attesting to meaningful use have done so with a program that interfaces with Akamai PM.

Unlike most companies, Akamai doesn't charge an up-front cost for the installation, configuration or testing of interfaces that have already been developed. There is a modest increase to monthly fees which covers Akamai's start-up expenses, on-going support of the integration and future maintenance changes required due to program modifications.

Does Akamai recommend a particular EMR?

The selection of an EMR is an extremely personal choice.

Epic, for example, is a community wide medical record. Users don't "own" an EMR, they have access to a single, large system shared by a wide swath of practices, labs and hospitals. Many practices appreciate the potential value associated with a shared medical record, while others want to maintain their own system, sharing only those patient records they deem appropriate.

An example at the other end of the spectrum is Elation; known for its easy-to-use interface and rapid adoption by Hawaii's physicians. The overwhelming majority of Elation users in Hawaii use Akamai PM as their practice management system.

Some EMRs are more suited to some specialties rather than others. An EMR that requires a lot of typing may work for one physician but be disastrous for another. Some doctors insist on voice recognition, while others want a tablet that can be carried into an exam room where items can be checked off a list. Some products are designed for very large group practices and have broad capabilities, but may be too complex for a practice with less sophisticated users. Some products are extremely flexible, but may take more time to learn and configure

EMR systems with local support may be an extremely high-priority for some offices, yet the vast majority of practices nationwide do without this luxury.

We recommend that prior to reviewing EMR systems, a practice actually document what they expect to accomplish with the EMR and rate these objectives in terms of importance. Is it to improve documentation? Improve medical care through clinical decision-making support? Qualify for stimulus or pay-for-quality funding? Provide remote access to charts? See other provider's notes? Improve coding? Make the practice more "bomb-proof" if audited? Reduce time in documenting visits? Eliminate transcription costs?

Without knowing what you expect to accomplish through the installation of an EMR, it's difficult if not impossible to make meaningful comparisons between different programs.

For these reasons and more, Akamai isn't in a position to provide guidance on whether a particular EMR is a good fit for a particular office. We can share what we know about the more objective aspects of the systems with which we have experience; size of the company, long-term cost projections, the number of installed systems in Hawaii or the reported flexibility of the system by its users. However, in the end, this must be an informed and well-considered decision by the primary users; the physicians who will be working intimately with it every day.

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EMR Product	EMR Company	Supported By	Interface Status*
Acumen	HIT Services Group	HIT	Live
Allscripts TouchChart	Allscripts	Allscripts	Live
Allscripts Pro EHR	Allscripts	Allscripts	Live
Amazing Charts	Amazing Charts	Amazing Charts	Live
Aprima EHR	Aprima	Aprima	Live
Aria	Varian Systems	Varian Systems	Live
ChartLogic	ChartLogic	ChartLogic	Live
DigiDMS EHR	DigiDMS	DigiDMS	Live
eClinicalWorks	eClinicalWorks	eClinicalWorks, Curas	Live
ElationEMR	Elation Health	Elation	Live
EMA	Modernizing Medicine	Modernizing Medicine	Live
Epic Ambulatory EMR	Epic	Hawaii Pacific Health	Live
Epic Ambulatory EMR	Epic	Queen's Connect	Live
EyeMD	EyeMD Healthcare Sys.	EyeMD Healthcare Sys.	Live
gGastro	gMed, Inc.	gMed, Inc.	Live
Intellechart	MDIntellesys	MDIntellesys	Live
IngeniousMed	IngeniousMed	IngeniousMed	Live
KeyChart	Key Medical Software	Key Medical Software	Live
KeyOptical	Key Medical Software	Key Medical Software	Live
LogixHealth	LogixHealth	LogixHealth	Live
Maxim Eyes	First Insight	First Insight	Live
MediNotes 'e'	Allscripts	Allscripts	Live
Meridian EMR	HealthTronics	HealthTronics	Live
OfficeMate	Eyefinity	EyeFinity	Live
Praxis EMR	Infor-Med Corp	Infor-Med Corp	Live
PrognoCIS	PrognoCIS	Bizmatics	Live

ProVation	Wolter Kluwers	Wolter Kluwers	Live
Sevocity	Conceptual Mindworks	Conceptual MW	Live
Soapware	Soapware	Soapware	Live
SRS Hybrid EMR	SRSsoft	SRSsoft	Live
Urochart	HealthTronics	HealthTronics	Live
AdvantaChart	AdvantaChart	AdvantaChart	Approved
Allscripts MyWay	Allscripts	Allscripts	Approved
Benchmark Clinical	Benchmark Systems	Benchmark Systems	Approved
digiChart	digiChart	digiChart	Approved
e-MDs	e-MDs	e-MDs	Approved
Exscribe	Exscribe	Excribe	Approved
EyeDoc	Eye Care Leaders	Eye Care Leaders	Approved
Glostream	Glostream	Glostream	Approved
Intergy	Sage	Sage	Approved
Phoenix Ortho	Phoenix Ortho	Phoenix Ortho	Approved
Q/ris 3000	MedQ	MedQ	Approved
RadPayor	RadPayor	RadPayor	Approved
R-Copia	Dr. First	Dr. First	Approved
SimplifyMD	SimplifyMD, Inc.	SimplifyMD, Inc.	Approved
WebChart	WebChartMD	WebChartMD	Approved
Wellogic HIE	Alere/Wellogic	Alere	Approved
Zotec	Zotec Partners	Zotec Partners	Approved
Medflow	Eye Care Leaders	Eye Care Leaders	Testing
drchrono	drchrono	drchrono	On Hold

^{*}Live –Currently in use with Akamai PM, Approved – Testing completed, ready for use, Development – Programming is currently on-going, Testing – Programming complete, Discussion – Akamai is coordinating with EMR vendor to determine if interface should be developed