



September 15, 2009 - Topic: EHRs and PHRs

Transition to EHRs Gains Ground, But Physician Resistance Remains

While the debate over health care reform continues, Congress already has approved and funded an effort to transition to electronic health records, CBS' "**Sunday Morning**" reports.

The federal stimulus package allocates about \$46 billion to help health care providers adopt EHRs.

Experts say EHRs will prevent errors, increase efficiency and save lives. However, patients and health plans are set to benefit the most from EHR adoption.

Some physicians say cost, training and interoperability remain barriers to adoption. In addition, privacy advocates have raised concerns about the security of EHRs.

The segment includes comments from:

- David Blumenthal, National Coordinator for Health IT;
- Jack Cochran, who oversaw Kaiser Permanente's switch to EHRs;
- Todd Dray, an ear/nose/throat surgeon at Kaiser Santa Clara Hospital in California;
- Claudia Gruss, a gastroenterologist in Connecticut;
- Ashley Katz of Patient Privacy Rights;
- Janet Mendoza, a nurse at Kaiser; and
- Dennis Quaid, an actor and patient safety advocate (Pogue, "Sunday Morning," CBS, 9/13).

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