

## Physician Focus Group Guide Personal Health Record (PHR) and Medication Management Activities

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This is a focus group guide designed to be conducted with physicians in an ambulatory setting. The tool includes questions to assess user's perceptions of personal health records.

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## **Physician Focus Group Guide**

### **PHR and Medication Management Activities**

#### I. Introduction (6-8 minutes)

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Administrative details (confidentiality, food)
- 3) Explain purpose of focus group
- 4) Overview of topics: Patient med management activities, Interface with PHR

#### II. Patient medication management questions

- 1) What are patient roles in managing their medications?
  - a. Compliance/taking medications
  - b. Monitoring medications for effectiveness and adverse effects
  - c. Telling physician how taking the medications
  - d. Tell the physician about all medications, including RX, OTCs, CAM
  - e. Lifestyle
  - f. Call with refills (how handle)
  - g. Call with problems (how handle)
  - h. Keeping a medication listNote: Focus on chronic meds?
- 2) What types of questions do you get asked by patients about their medications?
- 3) What questions do you ask patients about their medications?
  - a. At time of refill
  - b. At follow-up visits
  - c. When a patient calls with problems
- 4) Where do your patients get information about their medications? (MD, RPh, family, internet, ads, friends)
- 5) What is the role of pharmacists in managing medications?

#### III. Patient Health Record

- 1) Give brief definition of PHR to physicians (give examples?)
- 2) What are the benefits to a patient keeping a personal health record?
  - a. How do you think it would affect a patient's health?
  - b. What about the medical care they receive?
- 3) What information should be part of a PHR?
  - a. What info in a PHR would be helpful ...
    - To you?
    - To the patient?
    - To other practitioners?
- 4) Could you see yourself using a PHR for managing a patient's medications?
  - a. At follow-up visits
  - b. At time of refills
  - c. When a patient calls with problems
  - d. Managing interface with EMR if applicable
- 5) What problems or obstacles do you see with a PHR?
- 6) What impacts do you think a PHR would have on your practice?

#### IV. Summary

- 1) Thanks for your participation today – Do you have any final comments about medication management or PHRs?