

A message from Lisa Reed, Dawn Nee and Tricia Brisbois

Community Program Update - July 12, 2021

Wellforce continues to advance its EpicEdge Community offering for private practice physicians. The following is our monthly update of progress. We have included some project updates as well as recent FAQs.

Project Summary

- Wellforce is offering private practice members the opportunity to acquire the best-in-class Epic electronic health record (EHR) and practice management system for use in their practice.
- Locally branded as *EpicEdge Community*, this offering allows private practices to keep their financial and billing information separate while sharing the clinical record with the enterprise.

Project Status and Recent Accomplishments

- **Hardware Vendor Request for Information (RFI)** – As a service of our EpicEdge Community program, Wellforce will be recommending preferred hardware vendors that have been identified as part of an RFI process. The recommended vendors are on-track to be finalized by mid-July. Some practices have existing relationships with hardware vendors that support their practice today, but many practices need to engage a hardware vendor to purchase any needed equipment and support their practice over time.
- **Data Conversion and Archiving** - To migrate to Epic, a practice will ideally need to complete both conversion and archiving of their legacy EHR data. As we reported in [last month's briefing](#), the Wellforce team is actively meeting with vendors who provide these services. Additionally, Wellforce has developed its own data archiving and conversion tool, which has been introduced and will be evaluated as another solution for practices.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What will training look like for private practices? Will it be virtual, onsite or both?

A: In person training will be available and is highly encouraged. For those unable to attend in person virtual opportunities will be available as well.

Q: Will Epic have functionality to allow practices to give medical record access to payers for audits?

A: Yes, this can be done through EpicEdge Link where access to specific charts can be provisioned.

Q: Is there a cap on the pricing of Epic offered to private practices?

A: This will be addressed in the physician agreement. If there are any pricing changes, the EpicEdge Team will notify providers in advance and review any potential changes with the EpicEdge Community Physician Steering Committee that includes private physician members.

Q: Does the EpicEdge Community offering have integrated Telehealth?

A: Yes, integrated telehealth will be included.

Q: What languages does the Patient Portal (MyChart) support?

A: English, Spanish, French, German, Danish, and Dutch.

Outreach to Practices

As we continue to update our implementation plan, our EpicEdge Community team is in the process of reaching out to all practices that have expressed initial interest in implementing Epic. We are looking to gather some additional information about current interfaces, device integration and billing set up. This will NOT be the only outreach or opportunity; we are just looking for more information from the initial group of practices who have expressed interest. This information will be used to plan our implementation to ensure that we are accounting for integration that your practice may need as you go-live. Thank you for your time as we look to gather additional information.

What can you do now to prepare if you are considering transitioning to EpicEdge Community?

- **Lock your notes:** Only data contained in locked progress notes will be included in the data conversion into Epic. Please ensure that your regular practice is the timely lock of your progress notes in your current EHR.
- **Ensure Problem Lists are updated:** As you think about data migration into Epic, it may be a good time to ensure that these lists for your patients are updated with only relevant problems. If the data will be converted from your current EHR, we recommend making all necessary updates prior to conversion as opposed to in the new Epic system. Taking this step will make the transition easier when your practice begins using Epic and is focused on learning the new system and entering other patient information.

Contact

Please direct any questions to EpicEdge@wellforce.org. Or, to a member of the EpicEdge Community Team:

Dawn Nee, Executive Director, LMMER

MelroseWakefield Healthcare
dnee@melrosewakefield.org

Tricia Brisbois, Director of IT Strategy and EMR Support

Circle Health
tricia.brisbois@lowellgeneral.org

Lisa Reed, Vice President, Performance Management

NEQCA
lreed1@neqca.org