

# Digging Into the Details of “Certified EMR” & Tips For Buying an EMR

Steps to digging under the meaning of EMR certification:



Image via Wikipedia

1. Click to see the most recent alphabetical list (by product name not company) of **all products** certified **here**.
2. Find the **company or companies** you are using or are considering using.
3. Check that the exact name of the **product** is what you have or might purchase.
4. Check to find out if a **module or part of the product is certified or if the complete** product is certified.
5. Check to make sure the **version** of the product is the version you have or will have.

If you have questions about each company’s exact criteria met, you are in luck! On the **ONC site here**, you can click on each company’s detail (“View Criteria”) on the far right column labeled “Certification Status” to see what they have and don’t have. Compare this to how you are anticipating using your EMR to meet meaningful use. The more check marks a company has, the better-equipped they are (and more flexible) to meet your

practice needs and to qualify for the stimulus money.

The ONC site with the Certified Health IT Product List (CHPL) is Version 1.0. Version 2.0 is now being developed and will provide the Clinical Quality Measures each product was tested on, and the capability to query and sort the data for viewing. The next version will also provide the reporting number that will be accepted by CMS for purposes of attestation under the EHR (“meaningful use”) incentives programs.

You can tell ONC what you think would be helpful in the new version by emailing your ideas to **ONC.certification@hhs.gov**, with “CHPL” in the subject line.

If you’d like a list of just outpatient/medical practice EMR products or just inpatient / hospital products, I’ve split the big list into two smaller printable lists here:

**Medical Practice / Outpatient**

**Hospital / Outpatient**

## **Tips On Buying An EMR**



Remember that meeting meaningful use does not tell the whole story – if you are shopping for an EMR be prepared to go beyond a product’s certification status to consider:

- **Flexibility** – does it make the practice conform to it or can it conform to the practice? How?
- **Templates and best practices** – are you starting from scratch in developing protocols, templates and cheat sheets for your practice, or does it have a storehouse of examples to choose from or tweak?
- **Built for the physician, or the billing office, or the nurses**, but doesn’t really meet the needs of all three? Make sure the functionality is not too skewed to one

user group, but if it is, it should be somewhat skewed to the provider.

- **Interface and integration with your practice management system.** Does the information flow both ways? Do you ever have to re-enter information because one side doesn't speak to the other?
  - **Interface with other inside and outside systems:** Labs, imaging, hospital systems, ambulatory surgical center systems?
  - **Built-in Resources:** annual upgrade of HCPCS and ICD codes, drug compendium (Epocrates), comparative effectiveness prompting?
  - **Mobile applications** – EMR on your providers' phones?
  - **Data entry systems** – laptops, notebooks, tablets, iPads, smartphones, voice recognition?
  - **Hosting** – in your office? at the hospital? at the vendor's data center? in the cloud of your choice?
  - **What's the plan for ICD-10?** Will they provide practice support and education for the change or will they just change the number of characters in the diagnosis code field?
  - **Price**, including annual maintenance and additional costs for training, implementation, on-site support during go-live, and additional licenses for providers or staff.
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## **The First 2011/2012 Certified EHR List: Is Your EHR on the List?**



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Flickr

Everybody has been holding their breath to see which EHR software will pass the ONC-ATCB (Office of the National Coordinator for Healthcare IT – Authorized Testing & Certification Body) 2011/2012 certification. Some will buy a system based on this information, and others will continue on with their system feeling a great sense of relief that the system they've already paid for is now certified. Still others will wonder if their system of choice has applied and failed, or not applied yet. All this and more information is available on the websites of the three companies that have been approved via the Temporary Certification Program for Health Information Technology.

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The companies are:

1. ~~CCHIT~~ (Ed. Note, **CCHIT has ceased operations**)
2. **Drummond**
3. **InfoGard**

CCHIT and Drummond announced their first group of certified systems October 1, 2010 and InfoGard has yet to make an announcement.

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EHR software companies "...are required to provide complete information on the details of their ONC-ATCB 2011/2012 certification, including company and product name and version, date certified, unique product identification number, the criteria for which they are certified, and the clinical quality measures for which they were tested, and any additional software a complete EHR or EHR module relied upon to demonstrate its compliance with a certification criteria," states the CCHIT website. This information should be available on the product websites, the certifying body website and the ONCHIT website.

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As you are reviewing the bolded product names below, notice

that the information is split into separate categories for providers and hospitals, is divided based on the company that certified the EHR and is also broken into complete EHRs software versus software modules.

## **ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS**

### **Complete EHRs for Eligible Providers (CCHIT)**

1. ABEL Medical Software, Inc. for **ABELMed EHR – EMR/PM**, version 11
2. Allscripts, **Allscripts Professional EHR**, version 9.2
3. Aprima Medical Software, Inc. for **Aprima**, version 2011
4. athenahealth, Inc. for **athenaclinicals**, version 10.10
5. CureMD Corporation for **CureMD EHR**, version 10
6. The DocPatientNetwork.com for **Doctations**, version 2.0
7. Epic Systems Corporation for **EpicCare Ambulatory – Core EMR**, version Spring 2008
8. GE Healthcare for **Centricity Advance**, version 10.1
9. gloStream, Inc. for **gloEMR**, version 6.0
10. Intuitive Medical Software for **UroChartEHR**, version 4.0
11. MCS – Medical Communication Systems, Inc. for **iPatientCare**, version 4.0
12. Medical Informatics Engineering for **WebChart EHR**, version 5.1
13. meditab Software, Inc. for **IMS**, version 14.0
14. NeoDeck Software for **NeoMed EHR**, version 3.0
15. NextGen Healthcare for **NextGen Ambulatory EHR**, version 5.6
16. Nortec Software Inc for **Nortec Ambulatory EHR**, version 7.0
17. Pulse Systems for 2011 **Pulse Complete EHR**, version 2011
18. SuccessEHS for **SuccessEHS**, version 6.0

## **EHR Modules for Eligible Providers (CCHIT)**

1. Allscripts for **Allscripts Peak Practice**, version 5.5
2. eClinicalWorks LLC for **eClinicalWorks**, version 8.0.48
3. NexTech Systems, Inc. for **NexTech Practice 2011**, version 9.7
4. nextEMR, LLC for **nextEMR**, LLC, version 1.5.0.0
5. Sammy Systems for **SammyEHR**, version 1.1.248
6. Universal EMR Solutions for **Physician's Solution**, version 5.0
7. Vision Infonet Inc., for **MDCare EMR**, version 4.2
8. WellCentive for **WellCentive Registry**, version 2.0

## **Complete EHRs for Eligible Providers (Drummond)**

1. ChartLogic, Inc for **ChartLogic EMR 7**, version not noted

## **EHR Modules for Eligible Providers (Drummond)**

1. ifa united i-tech Inc. for **ifa EMR**, modules 170.302.A-J, 170.302.M, 170.302.0-V (specialized to ophthalmology)
2. QRS INC. for **PARADIGM**, version 8.3, modules 170.302.A-W, 170.304.A, 170.304.C-J

## **HOSPITALS**

### **Complete EHRs for Hospitals (CCHIT)**

1. Epic Systems Corporation for **EpicCare Inpatient – Core EMR**, version Spring 2008



# EHR Modules for Hospitals (CCHIT)

1. Allscripts for **Allscripts ED**, version 6.3
2. Health Care Systems, Inc. for **HCS eMR**, version 4.0
3. PeriGen for **PeriBirth**, version 4.3.50
4. Prognosis Health Information Systems for **ChartAccess**, version 4
5. T-System Technologies for **T-SystemEV**, version 2.7
6. Wellsoft Corporation for **WellsoftEDS**, version 11