

Electronic Medical Records

EMR – RHEUMATOLOGY RELEASE

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GLOSSARY

TERM	MEANING
Clinician Group	A group of clinicians with a similar clinical focus. Eg: general practitioners or a community based specialty.
EMR	An automated Electronic Medical Records System capable of providing the required practice and clinical management functionality set out in the EMR Release. The EMR includes both medical records and practice management components.
EMR Offering	The combination of EMR software, services, and support offered by an EMR vendor.
EMR Release	Defines the set of EMR Requirements Specifications that determine funding eligibility for an EMR Offering.
EMR Requirement	A functional or non-functional requirement used to determine funding eligibility of an EMR Offering.
EMR Requirements Specification	A set of EMR requirements used to determine funding eligibility as developed and amended from time to time by OntarioMD in partnership with eHealth Ontario.
Funding Eligibility Certificate	The document issued by OntarioMD to an EMR Vendor, following the successful completion of the Validation of an EMR Offering under the EMR Adoption Program.
Funding Eligible EMR Offering	The EMR Offering has been Validated by OntarioMD and has been issued a Funding Eligibility Certificate. A Funding Eligible EMR Offering is eligible for funding under the EMR Adoption Program.
OntarioMD	OntarioMD Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Ontario Medical Association.
Validation	The activities of OntarioMD, as carried out according to the EMR Funding Eligibility Approval Process.

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1.1 THE EMR ADOPTION PROGRAM

In October 2009, eHealth Ontario and OntarioMD initiated the EMR Adoption Program. The EMR Adoption Program is a provincially-funded initiative of eHealth Ontario designed to increase the adoption of electronic medical record systems within physician practices. The program enables physicians to electronically create, access, and share medical information to enhance patient care, improve health outcomes and increase patient safety. OntarioMD Inc. manages the EMR Adopter funding provided by eHealth Ontario.

EMR Adopter funding is intended to promote and enable physician office transformation from paper-based to Electronic Medical Records, increasing timely access to patient information when and where it is needed. In addition to EMR funding, the program also includes transition support services to assist physician practices in the necessary organizational changes when advancing information technology. These services are provided by OntarioMD at no cost to program participants.

Prior to the launch of the EMR Adoption Program, EMR funding was tied to the Primary Care IT Program, which concluded in March 2009.

For more information about the EMR Adoption Program, please visit OntarioMD.ca

1.2 ONTARIOMD

OntarioMD, a subsidiary of the Ontario Medical Association, acts as eHealth Ontario's delivery partner. OntarioMD is building on its existing capacity and experience in the delivery of programs and services to physicians. It provides practice change management support, co-manages Electronic Medical Record specifications, manages vendor certification and offers valuable tools and content to physicians via the Physician Portal at OntarioMD.ca.

1.3 ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD (EMR) SYSTEMS

An EMR supporting both clinical and practice management requirements is a critical component of information technology for Physician Groups. An EMR is a computer-based medical record that is specific to one physician, practice or organization. It is the record that a doctor maintains for his or her own patients which details demographics, medical and drug history, and diagnostic information such as laboratory results and findings from diagnostic imaging. In Ontario, it is integrated with other software that manages activities such as billing and scheduling.

EMR Offerings are available through both an Application Service Provider (“ASP”) model and a Local model. Offering both models lets physicians select different service and payment options that best fit their practice. For more information regarding Funding Eligible EMR Offerings, please visit OntarioMD.ca

1.4 EMR REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION

EMR Requirements Specifications define functional and non-functional requirements for EMR vendors who wish to validate their EMR Offerings as funding eligible. EMR Requirements Specifications will be added, updated or removed over time to define new, updated or retired requirements. Examples of EMR Requirement Specifications include:

- Core EMR Requirements Specification
- EMR – OLIS Requirements Specification
- EMR – HRM Requirements Specification
- EMR – Chronic Disease Management Requirements Specification

1.5 AN EMR RELEASE

An EMR Release defines funding eligibility requirements for an EMR Offering orientated to a particular clinician group e.g.; general practitioners, community based specialists. EMR Releases will be added, updated or removed over time.

An EMR Release references a “set of” Ontario EMR Requirements Specifications that define EMR requirements orientated for a particular clinician group.

1.6 EMR OFFERING FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

The following are key program activities that determine EMR Offering funding eligibility:

- Determining, through OntarioMD’s Validation process, if an Offering meets or exceeds the Requirements documented in the EMR Release and its related EMR Requirements Specifications;
- Publishing an EMR Release and withdrawing published EMR Releases;
- Publishing Specifications and withdrawing published Specifications;
- Specifying future and/or ongoing requirements for an Offering that OntarioMD and eHealth Ontario determine, after completion of the Validation process, must be implemented as part of the terms of funding eligibility for such EMR Offering;
- Issuing and withdrawing, if applicable under the provisions of this Specification and the Validation process, funding eligibility in respect of an EMR Offering;
- Validating a funding eligibility EMR Offering for ongoing qualification where there is any change to such Offering to determine whether funding eligibility should be retained by the EMR Offering or withdrawn by OntarioMD;
- Withdrawing Funding Eligibility for an EMR Offering if, over time:

- a) The EMR Offering no longer meets the Requirements set out in the applicable EMR Release and its related EMR Requirements Specifications;
- b) There is non-compliance with the EMR Vendor Obligations;
- c) The EMR Release or EMR Requirements Specification under which an EMR Offering was deemed Funding Eligible has been withdrawn by OntarioMD; or
- d) Certain other events, set out in the EMR Release or its related EMR Requirements Specifications.

EMR Vendors who wish to have an EMR Offerings Validated under the EMR Adoption Program.

Funding eligibility means:

- The EMR Offering satisfies the minimum requirements documented in the applicable release.
- The EMR Offering is Funding-Eligible under the EMR Adoption Program.

Funding eligibility does NOT mean:

- The EMR Offering is endorsed by OntarioMD or eHealth Ontario.
- Functionality of the EMR Offering is limited to the requirements documented in the EMR Release and its related EMR Requirements Specifications. In many cases, EMR vendors offer other functionality which differentiate their EMR Offerings.
- The elimination of the need for due diligence on the part of clinicians choosing an EMR in the EMR Offering selection process. Although similar functionality may exist in different EMRs, the design and workflow of some medical practices may be more appropriate for some EMR Offerings versus others. Potential customers should engage with their EMR vendors and ask questions to evaluate the fit of an EMR Offering with their practice profile and workflow.
- The EMR vendor is Funding Eligible. Funding eligibility refers to one version of an EMR Offering. EMR vendors may offer other products which have not gone through the Funding eligibility process. Only the Funding Eligible version of an EMR Offering is Funding Eligible under the EMR Adoption Program.

2. EMR RHEUMATOLOGY RELEASE

2.1 SCOPE/PURPOSE

OntarioMD is publishing this EMR Release in partnership with eHealth Ontario, within the context of the EMR Adoption Program.

This Ontario EMR Rheumatology Release defines the funding eligibility requirements for a *specialty-specific* Funding Eligible EMR Offering for rheumatology.

2.2 REQUIREMENTS

To be recognized as a *specialty-specific* Funding Eligible EMR Offering for Rheumatology, the EMR Offering must be validated on:

- EMR Specification 4.1A.
- EMR Requirements Specification for Rheumatology v1.0

Or

- Core EMR Requirements Specification v4.2
- EMR - OLIS Requirements Specification v4.2
- EMR - HRM Requirements Specification v4.2
- EMR - CIHI Requirements Specification v4.2
- EMR - CDM Requirements Specification v4.2
- EMR as a Service Requirements Specification v4.2
- EMR Requirements Specification for Rheumatology v1.0

3. EMR RELEASE TRACEABILITY

3.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF CHANGES

This is the first version of the EMR Rheumatology Release.