

Clinician burnout is reaching crisis levels in the U.S. and there has been a growing acknowledgment within the medical community that the EHR is a primary driver in professional dissatisfaction and burnout, particularly for physicians<sup>1</sup>. Overwhelming and time-consuming data entry, user interfaces that do not match workflows, and the difficulty in accessing meaningful-use information all interfere with building patient relationships.

Patient health and staff effectiveness both greatly depend upon productivity. Although EHRs are an essential part of healthcare documentation, clinicians need to collaborate on patient care in real time. While there is no silver bullet to eradicating clinician burnout, and EHRs are here to stay, collaboration solutions help promote higher satisfaction levels because workflows are optimized by serving up only the most important information needed at the time.

Here's where clinical collaboration platforms work where EHRs are lacking:

### 1. CARE DECISIONS ARE MADE IN TEAMS

While patients may view their physicians as the ultimate arbiter regarding their care, clinical decision-making is becoming more of a team sport. When physicians, nurses, therapists, nutritionists and other specialists deliver multidisciplinary care for a patient, streamlined communication becomes a necessity. EHRs won't help in this situation, but using one collaboration platform to communicate patient care instead of disparate systems can cut hours off treatment time.

### 2. MOBILE DEVICES DELIVER REAL-TIME CARE COORDINATION

While EHRs offer great documentation and storage capabilities, they aren't efficient enough to support teams who demand real-time results for their patients. Clinicians should have at their fingertips the ability to contact all team members caring for patients, along with access to schedules that connect them directly to the people on call. A comprehensive platform that features real-time secure collaboration among clinicians provides faster, quality care, and handoffs for exchanging patient information can help clinicians more easily share information, providing a more complete continuity of care.

### 3. MOBILITY ALLOWS CLINICIANS TO FOCUS ON PATIENTS

You will never find clinicians who got into health care for the administrative work! Time comes at a premium for most clinicians and they don't want to waste hours each day tracking down phone numbers or waiting on test results instead of focusing on patient care. Data management in a user-friendly setting is what medical staffs require in busy environments like hospitals, and it can easily be delivered in a mobile platform. Additionally, clinicians often work at several different facilities and collaborating with one another requires that they not be tethered to an on-premise system as well.

When one collaboration platform organizes patient data and enables on-the-spot communication without requiring vast amounts of time and inconvenience, both the hospital and its patients reap the rewards. Streamlined work means that staff can work smarter, not harder. Enhanced productivity means that hospitals can more easily care for greater amounts of patients faster. And heightened patient care means that potentially grave situations can be addressed sooner and lead to better overall outcomes.

1. [The Physicians Foundation 2018 Physician Survey September 18, 2018.](#)

