

# 7 Reasons your EHR/PM Software Should be in the Cloud



## Introduction

There remains an outdated and mistaken belief among some providers that an onsite infrastructure for an EHR and/or Practice Management system is preferable and somehow more secure than cloud-based systems. However, the reality is quite the opposite. In truth, cloud-based systems automatically update compliance-based protocols, reduce costs, minimize practice downtime, save time, and remove a number of other obstacles to care delivery. There are more reasons than ever to move your practice to a cloud-based system.

It provides a greater level of protection than systems that depend on servers located onsite at a healthcare organization.



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#### AVOID HARDWARE COSTS & THE HEADACHES OF MAINTAINING INFRASTRUCTURE

Acquiring and maintaining an onsite infrastructure is extremely costly and will require repeated investments over time. Servers do not last forever, and must be updated or replaced, often at a rather high cost, every few years or so. In addition to costs, your practice will have to set aside precious space for storage of servers and other onsite hardware. With cloud-based EHR/PM, these headaches are completely eliminated.

### **2** GREATER MOBILITY & FREEDOM WITH THE CLOUD

Onsite infrastructure forces you and your staff to be tethered to the practice's physical location in order to perform any tasks on your EHR/PM system. In other words, if you have charting to finalize at the end of the day, this means you will be stuck in the office after hours to do so. With a cloud-based system, however, you are free to work anytime and anywhere. You can access your system from any device with a browser and a secure internet connection.

### **3** MINIMIZED DATA BREACH & RANSOMWARE RISKS

Healthcare continues to be one of the most highly-targeted industries for cyberattacks. Just look to the news and you will see organizations hit by data breaches and crippled by ransomware attacks almost weekly. Since your data is securely stored offsite in the cloud, it remains unaffected in the event of a hack or ransomware attack. To resume operations, all you need is an uninfected computer and a secure internet connection.

## **4** FASTER DISASTER RECOVERY

What would happen if a tornado, hurricane, or other natural disaster destroyed your facility? If you have an onsite infrastructure, there's a good chance you'll lose most if not all of your historical patient data. To make matters worse, that data will likely be unrecoverable. With a cloud system, your entire practice facility could be wiped from the face of the earth and your data would remain safe and secure. Again, all that is required to get your system back up and running is a functional computer with a secure internet connection.



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#### **5** SIMPLIFIED UPDATES & BACKUPS

Updating software with an onsite solution often means lost revenue and variations in required downtime. With cloud-based solutions, updates happen automatically and are performed after hours. This means your practice's downtime due to updates is kept to an absolute minimum. In addition, data backups and redundancies are performed in the cloud with no practice downtime and no need for any action on your part.

### **6** STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH CODING CHANGES

A cloud system provides your practice with automatic updates to ICD-10 and CPT codes. This means a lower rejection rate from submitting incorrect codes due to being outdated on new coding and rules. This means you no longer have to worry about whether or not your code set is up to date. These updates are also included in your cloud subscription, meaning they occur at no extra monetary cost to your practice.

#### 7 MIPS & CURES ACT REQUIREMENTS MAKE CLOUD A NECESSITY

Upcoming Cures Act requirements will likely mean the on-premise EHR and Practice Management system your practice is using will no longer be compliant with MIPS by the year 2023. In order to remain compliant with on-premise platforms, software updates addressing future regulatory requirements (i.e., MIPS, Cures Act, Information Blocking) will need to be manuwally implemented. After the October 2023 deadline, maintaining Interoperability requirements can only be automatically maintained via cloud updates.

## The Time is Now

Is your practice suffering limitations, security vulnerabilities, and unnecessary headaches that come with acquiring and maintaining your own onsite infrastructure? Converting to a cloud system now can save your practice time, money, and frustration, allowing you and your staff to focus more on your practice's profitability and quality care delivery.

For more information or to schedule a demo, contact us at www.nextech.com or (866) 857-8557.



