

Date: 01-07-15

To: Columbia St. Mary's Physicians and Midlevel Staff

From: Suzanne Wilkerson, MD, Hospital EHR Medical Director
Richard Shimp, MD, Chief Medical Officer
Robert Lyon, MD, Chief of Staff
Guillermo Martinez-Torres, MD, Milwaukee Hospital Medical Staff President
Bruce Rowe, MD, Ozaukee Hospital Medical Staff President
Matthew Connolly, MD, Inpatient Medicine Program Director

RE: **Electronic (Paperless) Documentation – 2015 Mandate Update**

This notification letter serves as an update to communication sent from the Medical Staff Office on 10-31-14.

Effective on dates shown below, we will not be allowing written Physician and Midlevel Provider documentation in the hospital.

Mandates

- **January 12, 2015**, go-live date for mandatory PowerNote: Ozaukee and Riverwoods campuses
- **February 16, 2015**, go-live date for mandatory PowerNote: Milwaukee campus
- Dictation will continue to be available for H+Ps, Consults, Discharge Summaries, and Operative Reports.
- **PowerNote will be mandated for non-dictated physician documentation** such as daily progress notes, post-op notes, and other documentation that is currently being written on paper templates or paper progress notes in the hospital record.

Support

In-house EHR support was implemented at both campuses during August and September. Additional support will be mobilized during the initial phases of electronic transition. If you are struggling with entering your documentation, please have a nurse assist you in contacting hospital EHR support via Vocera Monday-Friday from 8am – 4pm. Outside of these scheduled support hours the Hospitalist team is also willing to provide colleague to colleague assistance, although this assistance does not replace training. Training was made available in November and December. If you still need training, please contact Dr. Wilkerson urgently at swilkers@columbia-stmarys.org.

Benefits

The benefits of transitioning from paper documentation are many, including:

- Improved access to patient information across any CSM facility where our patients receive care
- Improved safety and quality through more integrated communication between physicians and other caregivers

Implementing an EHR has created challenges for every health system. We are no exception. We need all staff to assist us in this effort. Your support and participation is greatly appreciated. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us with questions or concerns regarding these exciting changes for 2015.