

MEDAPPZ IMPROVES QUALITY OF HISPANIC HEALTHCARE

MedAppz iSuite Web-Based Software Saves Hispanic Physicians Time, Money and Works to Eliminate Healthcare Disparities Within the Hispanic Community.

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA – September 28, 2006 – MedAppz, the leader in web-based electronic healthcare record (EHR) applications, today heralds their partnership with the Interamerican College of Physicians and Surgeons (ICPS). The partnership is designed to outfit single Hispanic practitioners and small group practices with technology that will make them more profitable and effective and improve the quality of patient care.

“Outfitting Hispanic doctors with the MedAppz iSuite will reduce the time physicians spend on manual entry, manual transcription, and paper records by up to 10% per week,” says Dr. Rene Rodriguez, President and Founder of the ICPS and Editor-in-Chief of the medical journal *Medico Interamericano*.

“Most importantly,” Rodriguez stated, “because the MedAppz iSuite helps to eliminate life-threatening medical errors and safe-guards patient records, implementing the MedAppz iSuite within the Hispanic physician community will dramatically increase the quality of care patients will receive when visiting their Hispanic physician.”

ROOTS OF THE PROBLEM

Barriers to change that typical EHRs face, and that MedAppz has had great success in overcoming, include:

- **Resistance to change.** Most physicians don’t feel they have time to rearchitect their entire office procedures or to train on a new system—but because the MedAppz iSuite is easy-to-navigate and use, you can learn MedAppz in just minutes.
- **Affordability:** On-site collections of information technology hardware, and training at most physicians’ offices can cost \$30,000 to \$50,000 just to get started. MedAppz, as a web-based service, costs as little as \$300 per physician per month, and starts generating savings almost immediately.
- **Time loss:** Transcription costs alone for a typical practice are about \$3k per month. By entering data electronically and not having to pull paper records, healthcare analysts have calculated that a physician can save three minutes per patient, and at 20 patients a day, that’s a savings of one hour per physician each and every day!
- **Comfort with inefficient ways:** Almost small Hispanic practices use basic paper record systems. The ICPS held a phone survey 2 years ago that reached 6,000 Hispanic Physicians by phone and requested to send email follow-ups to them. Only about 40 of the 6,000 had e-mail addresses, instead of faxes. That’s less than one half of one percent!

“The medical industry today is where the banking industry was 50 years ago,” Rodriguez continues. “Back then, you had to find a branch, wait in long lines, fill out paperwork, show multiple forms of identification . . . and even then, your deposits wouldn’t get into the system for another 10 days!”

The Hispanic Community

MedAppz iSuite is particularly suited for use in the Hispanic community because of prevalent health problems and concerns about profitability. In 2001, Hispanics of all races experienced more years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 than non-Hispanic whites in five causes of death:

Stroke (18 percent higher)
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (62 percent higher)
Diabetes (41 percent higher)
HIV (168 percent higher)
Homicide (128 percent higher)

MedAppz has the capability of gathering massive amounts of clinical information on Hispanics by allowing research to provide evidence-based medicine initiatives to improve health outcomes in Hispanic communities. Through its innovative electronic medical record and practice management software, Medappz is changing the way Hispanic ambulatory-care providers capture, manage, and exchange patient information with one another and improving the quality of patient care as a result.

MedAppz customers pay a monthly fee based upon the number of doctors per clinic and the modules they select. Since the software is delivered as a service, physicians avoid having to invest in expensive hardware, software, and IT staff. This means MedAppz customers generally end up paying far less for MedAppz iSuite modules than they otherwise would for comparable software and infrastructure.

NOTE: Starting Friday, September 29th, MedAppz will be hosting weekly dinner meetings in the Miami area to introduce Hispanic Physicians represented by the ICPS to the benefits of an EHR system, the benefits of the MedAppz iSuite, and how an EHR system will help to bridge the disparities in healthcare in the Hispanic community. Interested Hispanic physicians should contact Dr. Frank Baez at 786-390-7980 for more information.

About MedAppz: MedAppz offers web-based Scheduling, Electronic Health Record (EHR) and Billing applications that simplify clinic management, cut costs, reduce risk, and ultimately improve patient care. Visit www.MedAppz.com or call 1 (866) 360-7338 for more information.

About ICPS: The Interamerican College of Physicians and Surgeons (ICPS) was founded in 1979 to promote cooperation among U.S. Hispanic physicians and to advance their professional and educational needs. Today, the ICPS reaches a vast majority of the Hispanic medical community in the United States and Puerto Rico – over 39,000 physicians --- and a growing number of health professionals in Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Spain through its publications, conferences, and links to Hispanic medical societies. The ICPS is the largest association of Hispanic physicians in the nation.

About Dr. Rodriguez: Dr. Rene Rodriguez is President and Founder of the Interamerican College of Physicians and Surgeons, and the Editor-in-Chief of the medical journal *Médico Interamericano*. He has been the recipient of many awards in the United States and other countries, including the Officer of the Cross - Spain's Civil Merit Order granted by the King of Spain, and Knight of the Order of Jerusalem - Knight of Malta. As a long-time champion for raising awareness of and improving the medical disparities in the Hispanic community in the U.S., Dr. Rene F. Rodríguez was awarded the "MediMedia's 2004 Freddie Public Service Award" as an Advocate for the Underserved. He recently published a Spanish-language guide for patients in dealing with their doctor entitled "Usted Y Su Medico" (You and Your Doctor).

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