

Southwest Hospitals MRI Center's Commitment to State-of-the-Art Technology at the Heart of Nearly 20-Year Relationship with MedInformatix RIS

Continually Enhanced and Evolving RIS Enables Hospital Affiliate to Remain Steps Ahead of the Technological Curve and the Competition, While Providing Patients with the Fastest, Most-Accurate Services in the Chicago Area

LOS ANGELES, CA – (July 28, 2010) – Since its formation in 1987, Oak Lawn, Ill.-based Southwest Hospitals MRI Center has leveraged cutting edge imaging and other technology to provide the community just southwest of Chicago with among the area's highest quality MRI studies. Each of its technicians possesses at least 15 years of experience, and is adept at making the fullest use of technological innovations to provide patients with the fastest and most-accurate MRI services.

The MedInformatix [Radiology Information System \(RIS\)](#) has been a key component in Southwest Hospitals MRI Center's success since 1993, when the affiliate of Chicago's Little Company of Mary Hospital and Palos Community Hospital transitioned from a custom database system to RIS at the dawn of the Electronic Health Records Age.

“Southwest Hospitals MRI Center stores a very large amount of demographics and collateral, required in screening patients for such critical information as the presence of implants and MRI contraindications with respect to other conditions and medications,” said Mike Cepolski, the Center's manager. “With RIS, a technician can determine in two to three minutes whether somebody's previously been a patient and what safeguards or procedures must be followed before performing an MRI.

“The scheduling process prior to our implementation of RIS could take as long as 10 minutes. RIS enables us to provide faster, more efficient and 100 percent accurate client service that ultimately results in a competitive advantage,” Cepolski said.

MedInformatix's [Radiology Information System](#) is an end-to-end practice management package that accommodates the needs of both small and large radiology clinics. In addition to electronic health records, RIS is bi-directional with other key software applications including dictation and Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS), and can be customized to meet the particular workflow and business rules of individual practices.

RIS' networking capabilities facilitate teamwork and coordination at Southwest Hospitals MRI Center, with technicians at multiple scanners simultaneously viewing an area or areas of a patient's body, ensuring accurate testing and proper treatments. In addition to the system's standard capabilities, [MedInformatix](#)'s willingness and ability to customize RIS further enhances its usefulness and value at the facility.

“Every time we’ve needed additional capabilities or functionality, the company has responded in a very short period of time,” Cepolski said. After working with [MedInformatix](#) RIS for nearly 20 years, Southwest Hospitals MRI Center continues to look for ways to further utilize the system’s built-in capabilities, he said.

The facility uses RIS’ scheduling templates, appointment information, and a host of demographic tools to track and store patients’ insurance records—including Medicare payments—prescriptions, screening forms and staff notes. As Southwest Hospitals MRI Centers continually improves upon its strong operational efficiencies, Cepolski and other administrators will soon weigh the possibility of leveraging the system’s billing capabilities in-house, rather than utilizing a third party.

“We’ve been using RIS since Version 4,” Cepolski said. “We expect [MedInformatix](#)’s RIS to remain a highly important part of our efforts to continually apply the healthcare industry’s latest technical developments, not for technology’s sake, but to provide our clientele with the most-up-to-date, state-of-the-art services and facilities around.”

For more information about the MedInformatix RIS, go to http://www.medinformatix.com/Products/radiology_information_system.htm.

About MedInformatix:

MedInformatix, Inc. (www.medinformatix.com) is a leading national provider of fully integrated Electronic Health Records. The products have been built around MedInformatix 25 years of workflow expertise. MedInformatix suites of products are designed on a single database using Microsoft SQL. Whether the client is a single physician who went live in 1994, a 13-location cardiology practice, the busiest radiology practice in Manhattan, or one of 15 other specialties it services, MedInformatix accommodates their needs. See why so many practices from various specialties choose MedInformatix. With 13 Microsoft nominations in 8 years, MedInformatix can turn the dream of a paperless, integrated practice into a reality.

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