Case Study

AUTOMATING THE DATA COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION REQUIRED FOR A NATIONAL IN-HOSPITAL PROGRAM USING AN EHR SYSTEM

The Challenge

Our client, a large, multi-hospital health system, is a participating member of the American Heart Association’s nationally recognized “Get with the Guidelines” (GWTG) Stroke program. GWTG is an in-hospital program focused on improving acute stroke treatment and prevention; and, requires the submission of nearly 300 data elements related to the treatment of stroke patients. As the client’s reporting team was dedicated to supporting live sites and ongoing implementations for a specific EHR system, creating the needed data extract to support the program appeared to be a rather daunting process with an impending deadline difficult to meet.

The Solution

Health Systems informatics (HSi) provided a highly experienced data developer with a focus in the EHR system in use to work in close collaboration with the Clinical Reporting domain analyst and clinical staff. Utilizing the clinical knowledge of the reporting analysts and partnering it with the extensive EHR system knowledge of the HSi developer, data mapping was quickly completed for the extract. Following the client’s Reporting Team standards, HSi developed the GWTG extract and worked with the reporting analyst to address and resolve issues found during development. Following completion of development, a series of data validation sessions were conducted with revisions made as needed until final sign-off was obtained.

The Benefit

Upon conclusion of user acceptance testing, the GWTG extract was implemented in the production environment. The information provided met the requirements of four hospitals. The data contained in the extract was formatted to allow each site to upload the data to GWTG’s online assessment and reporting system (Patient Management Tool). This has enabled the client to track its adherence to the GWTG program, and providers to make better guideline-based decisions in the treatment of stroke patients.