



Case study: Dr. Michael Barnthouse

Kansas City, MO



Gynecologist monitors practice performance with Quantum EHR, PM

Sherri Beasley is the office manager at Dr. Michael Barnthouse's office in Kansas City, Missouri. Dr. Barnthouse practices gynecology, delivering personalized and comprehensive health care for women at every stage of life. He has been in business in the region for over 35 years. Sherri has worked at the practice for the past 5 years, and previously worked for Dr. Barnthouse when he first went into business over 3 decades ago. The office has 4 total employees, and they see 20-25 patients per day. About 5% of the practice's patients are Medicare patients, but that population is growing, since they are now one of the few gynecologists in the area accepting Medicare.

Challenge

In early 2013, the practice was preparing to transition from paper charts to electronic health records (EHR). At the time, they did not have enough Medicare patients to report for government regulatory and incentive programs, but they knew it was time to modernize by going electronic.

“We needed to get off paper records, and wanted a solution we could use quickly and easily.”

– Sherri Beasley

Practice quick facts:

- 1 physician
- 4 employees
- 35 years experience
- 20-25 patients seen per day
- 5% Medicare
- 2013 began using Quantum EHR

Quantum Solutions:

- eLabs
- EHR
- PM

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Solution

The Quest physician sales representative brought in their colleague from Quantum healthcare IT one day, and the amount of information she shared with the practice was impressive, according to Sherri, who already had EHR experience from her previous jobs. Two major factors contributed to the practice choosing Quantum EHR, including support from the sales representative, and the fact that information on patients, who had already done lab work with Quest, was automatically transferred—saving both time and money.

“Being a gynecologic practice, the transition to electronic charts was able to be spread out over time. We could catch patients one at a time, as they came in for their annual exams. We wanted a solution that would be user-friendly, and Quest Diagnostics delivered with Quantum EHR.”

– Sherri Beasley

Dr. Barnthouse’s office also implemented Quantum Practice Management (PM) to simplify the daily tasks of the office, such as scheduling, and handling appointment-related email, phone, and text reminders. With PM information flows easily between the EHR and PM, ensuring real-time access to patient information.



Dr. Michael Barnthouse with staff.

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Outcome

Sherri says that Dr. Barnthouse does his own dictation, coding, and billing. Using Qunam EHR, billing errors can be reduced, through automated, real-time eligibility verification.

“We appreciate that all the information we need is right there,” said Sherri. “We love the simplicity of the solutions. The EHR is very easy to navigate. Additionally, these solutions are very reasonably priced for a small practice like ours.”



Dr. Michael Barnthouse at work.

Given that their Medicare population is growing, the practice plans to use the EHR to help report for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS), which is part of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). Because the Qunam EHR is fully certified to meet the associated CMS regulatory requirements it will support the practice's MACRA reporting. 2017 will be the first time the practice has reported for any incentive programs, and Sherri is taking part in online training offered by Quest Diagnostics to prepare her to report for MACRA.

“We have always received great support from Quest Diagnostics,” said Sherri. “They held our hand through the selection process, help us with any questions we have, and now will support us with MACRA.”

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