

NISQUALLY E.H.R.

ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

What is my Electronic Health Record and why is my medical provider using the computer in the exam room?

Over the last two years, the Nisqually Health Clinic has been moving toward the use of a better and more complete Medical Record. Up until this change to EHR, your medical information has been safely stored in a big folder called a Medical Chart. These charts take up a lot of space and they're getting larger. The information in large charts is sometimes hard to find and read.

Every time you come into see a healthcare provider at the clinic a hand-written note is made about the care you received. This piece of paper is placed into your Medical Chart so that we have a record of your concerns and treatments.

Some of the information about your visits is stored in a computer system called RPMS. Our new system will be able to hold all of your medical information electronically. **This means we will no longer have to keep hand-written information in a paper Medical Chart.**

When you meet a service provider at the clinic, you may see them typing on computers during your visit. **Information about your visit to the clinic is available right away for other service providers to see. This will help coordinate your insurance information with your referrals and labs. Our new computer system will help make all of the treatment you receive safer. It will improve your care at the pharmacy, as well.**

Ok so what if your big computer crashes?

Our expanded system is backed up daily and can be brought online within minutes. **That way your health information is always secure and available to the providers who need it.**

Who can see what's in my record?

Only authorized Nisqually Health Department providers and staff will be able to look at your Electronic Health Record. Your information is protected by two passwords.

When is all of this going to start happening?

Our healthcare providers began using the new Electronic Health Record in 2012. You may have noticed that your visits to the clinics have been a bit slower while we all get used to the new system. **Gradually we'll get the hang of it and will be able to serve you and your family much more quickly and accurately.**

We know you have a choice of many healthcare providers. We appreciate your confidence in our great staff and we are constantly striving to provide the best healthcare in the Thurston County Area.

Staff is available to answer your questions: Call 360-459-5312 with any questions and ask for Roderick Harris, CAC or Alison Spencer, MD