

Sandlot Connects Health Records for More Than 1.4 Million Patients

A patient is referred to your practice for treatment and you have an incomplete health history. You have the patient's primary care records, but another healthcare provider hasn't sent all the information you requested. The patient was supposed to bring test results to the appointment from yet another healthcare provider, but didn't. After this scenario plays out, your practice must properly code the visit in order to receive optimum reimbursement. Sound familiar?

To combat the challenge of sharing patient information within the healthcare community and to receive maximum reimbursement, North Texas Specialty Physicians (NTSP), a 600-doctor independent practice association in Fort Worth, Texas, formed Sandlot LLC, an IT services company. NTSP realized it would need to invest in technology to support patient information sharing and the ability to function in a "virtual practice" with an end goal of delivering the best patient care.

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Telly Shackelford
Chief Executive Officer
Sandlot LLC



Solutions that Achieve Interoperability

Sandlot developed an interoperable enterprise health information exchange (HIE) by turning to Lawson to help implement Lawson Enterprise Exchange powered by Lawson Cloverleaf® Integration Suite.

Enterprise Exchange uses a central data repository approach that provides clinical results and clinical summary aggregation service. This means discrete data is routed within each Continuity of Care Document (CCD) and can be stored in a patient-centric data repository. The repository allows for an aggregate CCD to be built from the most-recent patient data based on custom roles. That information is then routed to the appropriate provider at transitions of care. Additional data sources can be provided to the patient-centric repository for inclusion in the aggregated CCD.

The Sandlot HIE allows physicians to view a patient's entire medical history, including inpatient, reference lab, radiology imaging, and ambulatory visit and encounter details, in one location with one simple request. As a result, physicians have the information they need to make more-accurate decisions more quickly.

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Lawson is Integral to the Sandlot HIE Launch and Future Expansion Plans

Sandlot and the physicians of NTSP are satisfied with the results of the launch. “We have been pleased with our selection of Lawson as our partner in the launch and continued support and development of our HIE,” said Telly Shackelford, chief executive officer for Sandlot. “Lawson has the depth of experience in the healthcare industry that we needed in an interoperability partner to support our needs long term. Lawson will continue to be an integral part of our future expansion plans.”

Delivering the Complete Picture to Physicians

There are currently more than 1.4 million unique patients and a total of 1,400 enabled physician and office staff users who are connected to and access the Sandlot HIE to view shared patient records. The Sandlot HIE is connected to 7 hospitals, 2 reference labs, 14 physician associations on 3 different connected and interoperable electronic medical records systems, 11 imaging centers and more than 600 NTSP physicians.

Creating a complete and accurate patient history can be a manual, time-intensive process. But it doesn't have to be. Sandlot successfully leveraged Enterprise Exchange to help NTSP see the complete picture of a patient's health record, allowing the independent practice association (IPA) to make more-accurate decisions quickly, provide superior patient care and gain maximum reimbursement for services.

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About Sandlot LLC

Sandlot, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of North Texas Specialty Physicians (NTSP), a 600-doctor Independent Practice Association (IPA) in Fort Worth, Texas. Sandlot provides information technology services including a Health Information Exchange (HIE), Physician Portal and Integrated Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Application Services to NTSP physicians.