

Case Study

Quicker move to electronic medical records better results for everyone

Helping doctors to focus on patients not paperwork

Skin Care Doctors, P.A., a practice of 10 board-certified dermatologists, provides a wide range of medical, cosmetic and surgical services. Their five clinics in the Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN region have served more than 100,000 patients since opening in 1998.

Situation

Skin Care Doctors regularly handled patient charts including dozens of documents that had to travel between multiple offices to follow a patient's visits. In some years, the practice spent as much as \$20,000 on courier fees not including labor costs.

Objective

The medical practice needed to convert nearly two million pieces of paper to Electronic Medical Records (EMR) to enable access by multiple users simultaneously, free up miles of shelving, and improve employee productivity and office workflow.

Solution

Kodak Alaris' Authorized Reseller, MedCo Data, L.L.C., provided **Chart Ready** Software and two **Kodak** i2800 Scanners at each location where Skin Care Doctors stored records to successfully convert the practice to Electronic Medical Records.

Results

Skin Care Doctors transitioned from paper to digital records in four weeks instead of the 12-16 week industry average. Redeploying front office staff and hiring more medical staff further enhanced direct patient care. They achieved a more secure, efficient and clutter-free office environment and increased satisfaction of physicians, staff and patients with the implementation of the new system.

"The efficiency and speed of **Kodak** Scanners has been key to our accomplishing this daunting challenge in minimal time and with minimal disruption to the office."

Dr. Michael Ebertz, Skin Care Doctors founder and CEO

Five busy locations. One powerful, digital solution.

Paper medical charts have clogged the operation of medical practices for years. Progress notes, HIPAA forms, pathology and lab reports, prescription information, correspondence and other documents have to be stored in folders, filed and accessed manually and take up valuable office space. Even worse, paper documents are only available to one person at a time and can be easily lost or misplaced.

With five locations spanning 120 miles, the challenge was even greater for Skin Care Doctors. Individual charts including up to 60 pieces of paper would be carried or couriered from one clinic to another to follow a patient's office visits. In some years, the practice spent as much as \$20,000 on courier fees not including labor costs.

Kodak Alaris' Authorized Reseller, MedCo Data, L.L.C., implemented a solution that included **Chart Ready** Software and two **Kodak** i2800 Scanners at each location where Skin Care Doctors stored records. **Chart Ready** Software "prunes" and prepares records for digitization via barcode technology to create the appropriate tab headings and send that formatting to a Cloud-based data bank.

MedCo Data helped Skin Care Doctors transition from paper to Electronic Medical Records in a fraction of the average time –



four weeks when the industry average is 12-16 weeks.

Kodak i2800 Scanners were selected because they deliver the greatest number of scanned pages per minute – plus a number of features not offered on other manufacturers' scanners – further accelerating the process for the transition team. The i2800 Scanner's dual LED illumination enabled duplex scanning with great image clarity, consistency, and color stability. Smart Touch functionality allowed for quick and easy common scanning tasks at the press of a button. And the scanner's input and output flexibility allowed the team to scan a wide range of papers (thick and thin), ID cards, and even embossed hard cards quickly and efficiently.

With MedCo Data managing the process, five temporary employees spent 40 hours a week for five months scanning nearly two million pieces of paper. The scanning process focused on only the records of the practice's approximately 80,000 "active" patients. As inactive patients returned to the office for treatment, additional files could be digitized, as needed.

Want to learn more? Call: 1-800-944-6171 www.kodakalaris.com/go/IM

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