



## **Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association**

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### **IT Information Resources (listed in alphabetical order):**

**American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)** -- [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org) – is an association of health information management (HIM) professionals. AHIMA has 50,000 members and is dedicated to the effective management of personal health information needed to deliver high quality health care to the public. It was founded in 1928 to improve the quality of medical records.

**Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association (ACCMA)** – [www.accma.org](http://www.accma.org) -- The ACCMA hosts seminars on IT selection. Call the ACCMA for assistance with this and other practice management issues at (510) 654-5383.

**American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)** -- <http://www.centerforhit.org/> -- AAFP's Center for Health Information Technology offers helpful articles, tutorials and tools for choosing IT, assessment services, information on IT vendors and resource listings.

**American Medical Association (AMA)** – [www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/18555.html](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/18555.html) – The AMA provides extensive guidance on IT implementation at this location of its website. Also, the AMA recently developed an educational resource titled “15 questions to ask before signing an electronic medical record or electronic health record agreement.” It may be downloaded at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/472/emragement.pdf>.

**California Health Care Foundation (CHCF)** -- <http://www.chcf.org/> -- A non-profit foundation that monitors IT developments in health care and publishes studies it has commissioned on the subject.

**California Medical Association (CMA)** – [www.cmanet.org](http://www.cmanet.org) ( in the members-only section click on Physician Advocacy, then scroll to “Health Care Information Technology”) – The CMA has articles, services, links to other resources and in the “On-Call Library” there are documents which discuss how to managed computerized medical records (On-Call” Document #1132) and professional liability issues regarding communicating with patients on the internet (On-Call Document #0823).

**Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology (CCHIT)** - [www.cchit.org](http://www.cchit.org) - CCHIT is a private organization that has been awarded a contract by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services to develop certification criteria and an inspection process for health information technology in three areas: ambulatory EHRs, inpatient EHRs, and the networks through which they interoperate. In early July 2006, CCHIT began publishing a list of CCHIT-certified products based on their criteria which assesses functionality, interoperability, and security. Note that CCHIT criteria does not address vendors' financial condition, which may affect the company's prospects for remaining in business and supporting its computer software system(s).

**DOQ-IT** is a federally funded initiative promoting the adoption of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) and Information Technology (IT) in small- to medium-sized physician offices. Physicians who participate in quality improvement programs receive personal assistance in obtaining and implementing an information

technology system. Whether participating in the program or not, helpful resources are online that may be downloaded, including guidance on comparing vendors, key questions to ask vendors, a glossary of terms, a listing of vendors and guidance on implementation of an EMR system. Go to:

<http://www.lumetra.com/doq-it/index.asp>

**eHealth Initiative** – [www.ehealthinitiative.org](http://www.ehealthinitiative.org) – An organization whose membership is comprised of physician organizations, health plans, patient advocacy groups, business coalitions, health IT organizations, and others, the eHealth Initiative’s mission is to promote interoperable information technology by engaging multiple stakeholders to define then implement specific solutions.

**Healthcare Informatics** -- <http://www.healthcare-informatics.com/> - a monthly magazine for executives and managers involved in IT. An annual issue on vendors and products is available for about \$50.00.

**Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)** – [www.himss.org](http://www.himss.org) -- is the health care industry’s membership organization focused on providing leadership in the development of health care information technology.

**Medical Group Management Association (MGMA)** -- <http://www.mgma.com> -- An association representing medical group managers and leaders, offers publications on a wide array of practice management issues, including healthcare technology management and purchasing. A catalog may be requested by calling 877-ASK-MGMA.

**Medical Records Institute** -- <http://www.medrecinst.com/> -- has info. on health information technology

**Medicare** - [www.palmettogba.com/J1B](http://www.palmettogba.com/J1B) – This is the website for the Medicare fiscal intermediary in California. In the “Electronic Data Interchange” (EDI) section under “Enrollment” you can find a listing of software programs that have been approved for billing the Medicare program. To directly to the list go to:

<http://www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/providers.nsf/DocsCat/Jurisdiction%201%20Part%20B~EDI~Enrollment~4967014856F52EBE852574BB007680E7>

**Texas Medical Association** – [www.texmed.org](http://www.texmed.org) – The TMA has information on its website, including a 96 page booklet titled “Electronic Medical Record Implementation Guide” which provides detailed guidance on what to consider and how to compare and select a system. Go to the website, click on “Practice Management” on the lefthand side menu, then choose “Health Information Technology” in the drop-down menu and scroll down to the heading “Products and Services,” and the guide can be downloaded as a pdf. file.

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** – [www.hhs.gov/healthit/healthnetwork](http://www.hhs.gov/healthit/healthnetwork) -- Serves as the pivot point for several federal programs — the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, National Health Information Network initiatives, and the American Health Information Community.