

# Redwood MedNet

<http://www.redwoodmednet.org>

This 2006 Physician Technology Survey generously supported by the Medical Society of Mendocino and Lake Counties and the Foundation for Medical Care

January 10, 2006

Dear Mendocino or Lake County Physician,

A lot has happened since our first Physician Technology Survey in August 2004.

- **Redwood MedNet**, a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, was formed by a group of local physicians and technologists. Redwood MedNet meets from 12:30 to 1:30 PM in the Medical Library at Ukiah Valley Medical Center on the second Tuesday of each month (<http://www.redwoodmednet.org>).
- **Mendocino HRE** (Health Records Exchange) was selected in June 2005 by the Connecting for Health (<http://www.connectingforhealth.org>) project to demonstrate a national Record Locator Service prototype. In November 2005 Mendocino HRE was one of twelve community projects awarded a contract by the Office of the National Coordinator at the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (<http://www.hhs.gov/healthit>) to develop a prototype of the National Health Information Network.
- **Redwood Health Information Collaborative** was launched in December 2005 by the Mendocino County Department of Public Health with a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. A community Steering Committee will be convened to develop business, governance and policy solutions for Mendocino HRE.
- **Mendocino e-Referral Network**, proposed by Redwood MedNet, received a grant from the Blue Shield of California Foundation to develop a clinical messaging infrastructure for Lake and Mendocino health care providers. This e-Referral clinical messaging project is currently recruiting practices who want to participate in the pilot development phase. Practices will incur no costs (aside from unpaid planning time) to participate in the project. More information is available on the e-Referral clinical messaging project page on the Mendocino HRE web site (<http://mendocinobre.org>).

With so much success in 2005 we are looking forward to a productive 2006. Planning is underway for a half day conference in Ukiah this year, offering local physicians the opportunity to attend presentations by national leaders in health information technology. In addition to the e-Referral clinical messaging project now recruiting participants, other opportunities to develop new practice-level health information technology solutions may occur in 2006. On your behalf Redwood MedNet will continue to seek technology solutions with little to no practice-level start up cost for participation, though our solutions assume your practice has computer access to the Internet.

Please help us continue our progress by completing the 2006 Physician Information Technology Survey. Completed surveys can be mailed to the Foundation in the self-addressed envelope provided, or sent by fax to 462-1206. The survey deadline is January 31, 2006. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

With best wishes,

Carl Henning, MD  
President, Redwood MedNet Inc.

#### Redwood MedNet Board of Directors

Gary Brooks -- Peter Cho, MD -- Andy Coren, MD -- Greg Esselman, MD  
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## Results of the Physician Information Technology Survey Conducted by the Mendocino Lake Medical Society and the Foundation for Medical Care August 2004

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answers*</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Do you have a practice management system?	56	70%
Do you have dial up internet capability?	58	74%
Do you have high speed internet access?	59	61%
Do you have electronic medical records?	60	10%
Do you keep full duplicate paper records?	53	30%
Do you keep supplemental paper records?	51	31%
Do you use electronic prescriptions/pharmacy?	58	5%
Transcription: Handwritten?	41	59%
Transcription: Typed?	47	74%
Transcription: Dictated?	49	80%
Transcription: Voice Recognition?	40	7%
Transcription: Combination?	37	16%
Transcription: Template & Voice Recognition?	38	8%
Are you using in-house billing?	49	53%
Are you using a billing service?	56	20%
Are you planning a change in “practice management” or electronic medical records software?	52	21%
If hardware/software training were available at no cost would you be willing to “change” your form of practice management?	42	52%

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*\* 60 surveys returned of 210 total mailed to physicians in Lake and Mendocino counties, a 28.5% response rate*

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