Our Epic Electronic Medical Record System

What is an electronic medical record?
An electronic medical record (EMR) is a computerized version of a paper medical chart. It brings together all the information traditionally written on paper and securely stores it digitally. Approved healthcare providers have access to all clinical information in an EMR by logging onto a computer network. An EMR offers quick and easy access to information. With additional information added by typing on a keyboard or clicking a mouse, this new data fills the record quickly. It’s also easy to read, as opposed to handwritten notes.

Why is my physician using an EMR?
Your medical care is your physician’s priority. The Epic EMR system allows your provider to carefully document and quickly obtain information that is vital to providing your care. All-important information about your medical history is secure in one place and easily viewed, allowing your physician to respond quickly and effectively to your needs. EMR technology allows your physician to work better, smarter and faster, which translates to improvements in quality and safety for you. An EMR enhances your experience with your physician and his/her staff; it does not replace it.

As a patient, why do I want an electronic chart?
Everything in the electronic medical record is necessary to care for you. The EMR provides your physician with a more complete picture of you. With an EMR:

• All your caregivers who use the Yale New Haven Health Epic system link to your one record.
• Results and notes generated during your hospital visits, physician office appointments, or clinic encounters become consolidated, coordinated and accessible in one record.
• Instant access to your medical records allows a physician — especially in emergencies — to begin quickly providing care.

As the patient, you will benefit from quick access to information. For example, with the EMR system, your doctor will know when your lab results are available without having to place a call or check other locations for paperwork. In turn, that information is shared with you sooner.
What about privacy? Who can see my electronic chart?

Advanced security measures ensure that only those medical professionals who help to provide your care can view clinical or medical information. The same laws that protect your privacy with paper charts apply to EMRs. Your chart is locked until a member of your healthcare team logs in to access the record. When they are done, they log out. For additional safety, the system automatically logs out a caregiver if he/she is not actively using it for a brief period.

Can I see my medical record?

Yes. Unlike paper charts, which you might not see, your physician can show you test results and medication records while discussing your care simply by turning the computer screen toward you.

What is MyChart®?

MyChart offers personalized and secure online access to portions of your medical records. With MyChart, you can securely use the Internet to help manage and receive information about your health. It is a free service offered to patients. Ask your medical provider for your MyChart Activation Code. If you have a MyChart account, please know that not all physicians have implemented Epic at their practices at this time. If you see test results in your patient account, and you have a question, make sure you contact the physician who ordered your lab work. It might be different from the physician who provided your MyChart activation code. Remember: All your physicians populate your EMR record with important information about you. In turn, that information can appear in your MyChart account.

What is MyChart proxy access?

Proxy access allows a parent (or guardian) to log into their personal MyChart account and then connect to information about their child or family member. Now you can help family members schedule appointments, and keep track of immunizations and medications. Visit mychart.ynhhs.org and click on the Process Access link. Here you can download either the pediatric or adult proxy form. Complete the form and bring it with you to the physician’s office where the patient receives care.

A service brought to you by your provider and