

# emrU newsletter, October 2013

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## What is emrU?

emrU is an Epic electronic health record software environment created for use solely by the Health Sciences here at The University of Iowa. Our goals are to enhance existing classes, facilitate interprofessional education and provide students with a solid background in how to use an electronic medical record before they graduate – an essential skill for anyone in healthcare today.

## This month: collaboration, patient build, preparation for Spring & Fall 2014

- Last month Iowa led a meeting with other institutions that are also using Epic in an academic context. These schools included University of Florida Health, Ohio State Medical Center and University of Rochester Medical Center. We are working on creating a mailing list for anyone interested in academic uses of an electronic medical record to collaborate with this group.
- Patient build is concluding for the fall semester and we are shifting our attention to the spring semester. emrU is slated to be used in the Carver College of Medicine, the College of Pharmacy as well as within the College of Nursing & Department of Nursing at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Additionally, we are beginning work on a large interprofessional effort to unite all students in the health sciences on a shared patient case that will be augmented by patient records in emrU.
- If you would like to use emrU in Spring 2014, please contact us this month. If you would like to use emrU in Fall 2014, it's never too early to express your interest and start exploring what emrU can do for you. In either case please contact Nick May ([nicholas-may@uiowa.edu](mailto:nicholas-may@uiowa.edu)).

## Collaboration with other schools

- Common challenges that every school with an emrU-like program are working on include:
  - Assessment of students within the electronic medical record
  - Slowly releasing information to students as a patient case unfolds
  - Training students before they use the electronic medical record and how this differs from the educational mission
- Some schools are at the point of piloting their use of Epic as a teaching tool to a single class or a small interprofessional group while others are using Epic for several different classes. Iowa appears to be the only school at this point in time that is integrating electronic health records so deeply into their curriculum. However, several additional schools appear to be on track to build similar systems in the coming years.
- A collection of presentations and academic papers regarding the use of electronic medical records in education is available on the [emrU SharePoint site](#) in the folder "What Other Schools Have Done". If you have trouble accessing the emrU SharePoint site, please contact Nick May ([nicholas-may@uiowa.edu](mailto:nicholas-may@uiowa.edu))

## Past newsletters

Past newsletters are available on the [emrU SharePoint site](#) in the "Newsletters" folder.

## Find us

There is someone on the emrU Steering Committee near you! Go talk to them about what emrU offers and how it can help you with your next class.

**Carver College of Medicine:** Dave Asprey, Boyd Knosp, Amal Shibli-Rahhal.

**College of Nursing:** Ellen Cram, Deb McCarthy, Cristina Richards.

**UI Department of Nursing:** Janet Hosking, LouAnn Montgomery.

**College of Pharmacy:** Gary Milavetz.

**Health Care Information Systems:** Dr. Bolger, Mary Jo Duffy, Dr. Van Daele, Val Heffernan, Nick May, Kristy Walker.

## Join us

Do you have a class that you think would benefit from a robust patient for every student in a safe Epic environment devoid of real patient data? Do you want new tools to evaluate student learning? Tell us! [Propose a project](#), get in touch with the people listed above, or e-mail Nick May at [nicholas-may@uiowa.edu](mailto:nicholas-may@uiowa.edu) for more information about what we can do for you!