

## EHR is Coming!

### *What is an Electronic Health Records (EHR) system and why is QueensCare Family Clinics moving forward now on this bold initiative?*

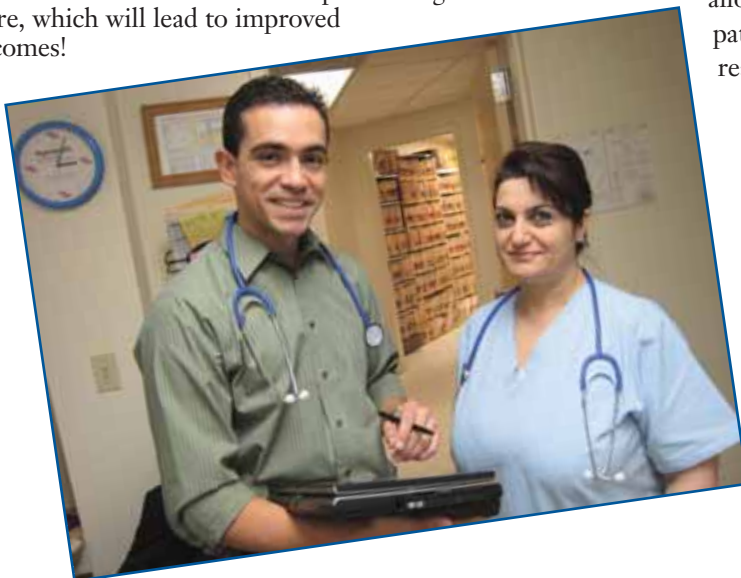
According to **Dr. Guillermo Diaz**, “Success with Electronic Health Records implementation will enable QueensCare Family Clinics to lead other community clinics to significantly improve quality and health outcomes for patients.” Dr. Diaz is a pediatrician at the Hollywood Clinic and the Project Manager for implementing the Intergy EHR System across all six QFC clinics by mid-2007.

While there are many discussions about EHR as a federal mandate, the primary reason for QFC to implement EHR is to significantly improve the quality of patient care.

### Here’s how it works:

Patient medical data is stored electronically in a centralized database. Using a wireless tablet (computer), our providers

- ◆ Can readily access the most up-to-date and complete set of progress notes, prescription plan, and lab results for the patient,
- ◆ Can receive medical alerts for potentially adverse drug-to-drug interactions, for complying with preventive guidelines and for drawing attention to abnormal lab results while delivering care to the patient,
- ◆ Can make the best decisions for their patients right at the point of care, which will lead to improved health outcomes!



Going from a paper-based work environment to an electronic one will require clinic managers, providers and staff to make some changes in the way they deliver care. For example, when a prescription order is transmitted directly to the Dispensary, the provider will no longer need to deliver the patient’s medical record to the Dispensary. In addition, the way of notifying the provider that the drugs are ready for dispensing will need to be changed. To assist with this effort, Grace Consulting has been retained to work with Dr. Diaz and his team to ensure a smooth transition.

### What can you expect in the next few months?

**January 2007** – Clinic managers and providers (“super-users”) will conduct a pilot test of the Intergy EHR system.

**February** – Training on the Order Entry functionality will be provided to all six clinics.

**March** – Forms to facilitate data entry of patient data will be developed.

**April** – Training on Provider Encounter Note.

**May-June** – Phased roll-out of the full Intergy EHR system to all clinics.

We are very excited about the Intergy EHR technology that will allow our clinic staff to spend more time with our patients. If you have any questions, Dr. Diaz can be reached at [GuDiaz@queenscare.org](mailto:GuDiaz@queenscare.org).

*Dr. Guillermo Diaz and Medical Assistant, Susanna Garibyan, demonstrating how easy it is to access patient medical data from a wireless tablet, in front of a room full of paper-based medical records.*