

# Topics

- Disease Management = Process Management
- What is a Workflow Management System?
- How does Workflow Management apply to Disease Management?
- Benefits and Challenges for using Workflow Management Systems in Disease Management

## **Process Management**

Disease Management = Process Management...

### … in 2 ways:

- 7 Managing the Disease Process
- 7 Managing the Healthcare Process around the Disease

# **Example Process: AMI**



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What is a Workflow Management System?

- Workflow Management System
- Business Process Management System
- Healthcare Process Management System
- Workflow Engine



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## **Two additional prerequisites**

- SOA: Service Oriented Architecture
- Web-based access to all users and participants

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## **Heart Failure Identify Patient**



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# **Example Workflows – currently live**

Patient Safety Allergy Assessment Tracking Critical Labs Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) Fall Risk Heparin Therapy Infection Control IV Site Management Microbiology/Antibiotics Pressure Ulcers Med Reconciliation Manager Pneumococcal Vaccination

<u>Clinical Guidelines</u> Acute Myocardial Infarction Congestive Heart Failure Diabetes Administrative 23 hour Observation Manager Admission Assessment Completion Admission Manager Advance Directive Charts to be Completed Notification Nursing Documentation Manager Off Campus Test/Open MRI Patient Factors Due Physician Notification of Pts. Admitted Positive Culture Manager

Operational Efficiency Radiation Therapy Prep Order Dietary Tray line Manager Bed Management

#### **JCAHO** Metrics

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# **Challenges and Benefits**

### Challenges:

- Need for integration
- Complexity

### **Benefits:**

- Dynamic, Configurable
- Disease Management as "byproduct" of care, not as separate activity

# **Challenge: Need for Integration**

- For Process Management tools to be effective, they need to be integrated with
  - 7 Users
  - 7 Data
  - 7 Patients
  - 7 Context

# **Challenge: Complexity**

- Process Management is complex
- Exception Handling adds complexity undesirable but sometimes unavoidable
- Process Management is not simple, not inexpensive



# **Benefits: Dynamic, Configurable**

- In a Workflow Engine, processes are dynamic and configurable
  - 7 Between diseases
  - 7 Between organizations
  - 7 Over Time
- Continuous Quality Improvement

# **Benefits: Disease Management as "byproduct"**

- Disease Management is a "byproduct" of healthcare delivery not a separate activity.
- DM Processes tightly integrated into the overall workflow
- DM interventions delivered by the standard healthcare team physicians, nurses, and others
- DM staff as supplementary team members, and escalation points

# Conclusions

- Workflow Management Systems as emerging technology in Healthcare IT
- Process Management techniques and tools help automate Disease Management processes
- Challenges and obstacles exist, but in certain targeted areas, benefits are becoming clear and form the basis for ongoing implementation