



Rider & Associates



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Medical Transcriptionist: A Doctor's Lifeline

Medical transcription and medical records are the backbone of our healthcare system. They are so crucial to healthcare that without them the result would be catastrophic. In some cases incomplete medical records can also prove to be a dangerous risk to the life of a patient. And let's face it, nobody wants to visit a clinic or a hospital where everyone seems to be running around helter-skelter in complete and utter confusion.

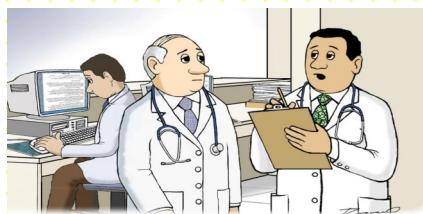
A medical transcriptionist plays a rather big role in the maintenance of medical records. Typically a medical transcriptionist would type out a doctor's recorded notes about a particular patient and add it to the system. It is important that these notes are regularly updated so that the patient receives proper treatment and care. There are a number of ways in which medical transcriptionists contribute to making the job of a doctor easier and less stressful.

Medical transcriptionists are expert typists and are well versed with all medical terminology. Instead of doctors having to make their own notes about patients, they simply have to make an audio recording of the diagnosis and treatment. The transcriptionist then listens to these recordings and types them up in the form of documents. This eliminates the chances of misinterpreting handwritten notes made by doctors.

A lot of what decides the quality of healthcare is the quality of patient records. Since doctors don't often know their patients personally, they rely heavily on the patient's medical history for information. This medical history is crucial because it tells the doctor everything he/she needs to know about the patient in terms of allergies, prior treatments and medication history. If these records are up-to-date and well written, there is nothing stopping the doctor from providing the patient with top notch healthcare.

When patients have to be referred to specialists or other doctors for whatever reason, detailed patient records come in very handy. Doctors are always pressed for time and cannot afford to spend an hour on briefing the specialist about the condition of a patient. Patient records made by medical transcriptionists eliminate any potential miscommunications and misunderstandings between doctors and specialists regarding a patient's treatment.

In many cases notes are dictated by doctors to transcriptionists. The encounter between the doctor and the patient is also included in the patient history. This narration of the encounter and revisiting symptoms often helps doctors in the diagnostic process. The role of a medical transcriptionist is not limited to transcribing doctor's notes. A Medical Transcriptionist with a substantial amount of experience can choose to become a medical transcription editor. A medical transcriptionist editor edits the initial transcriptions made by medical transcriptionists to eliminate any errors and ensure that all of the information recorded is accurate. This is a very important job to maintain the quality of patient records.



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