



Documenting with Philips Wireless SpeechMike Air Pays Off

Central Neurological Services practice in Franklin, Ohio

Documenting with Philips Wireless SpeechMike Air Pays Off for Neurologist, the Practice, on Rounds and with Patients

For years Robb Snider, M.D., of the Central Neurological Services practice in Franklin, Ohio, had been trying to save time and expenses by looking for more efficient ways to dictate patients' notes into their charts.



Philips SpeechMike Air available as push button or slide switch version

Six years ago, instead of handwriting notes, he recorded patient encounters on microcassettes that were sent to a transcriptionist to key into the medical record. This was better, yet still took a lot of time. Then three years later, he discovered the world's best-selling audio recording device, Philip's SpeechMike Pro, which, when used with Dragon NaturallySpeaking, automatically converted his spoken words into written format. This was a significant advancement - since SpeechMike Pro reduced costs related to transcription by 70 to 80 percent.

As significant as this transition was, Dr. Snider sought more economies to better serve his organization and his patients. He found them when he recently upgraded to SpeechMike Air, the new wireless version of SpeechMike Pro. Its anywhere freedom has made a sizable impact by transforming the dictation process and raising productivity levels in a variety of important clinical scenarios.

The Philips SpeechMike Air wireless dictation microphone provides the extra mobility physicians need to dictate notes wherever they deem best. For Dr. Snider, its real-time, wireless dictating capabilities have dramatically improved:

- Accuracy and completeness of his documentation
- Cost-savings of transcription services
- Turnaround time for referring physicians
- Workflow to stay on schedule
- Speed to update hospital electronic health record
- Patient satisfaction.
- Personal time-savings and convenience

"The wireless convenience not only benefits me personally," Dr. Snider said, "but it also lets me support numerous objectives of our practice, easily meet requirements for the hospital's electronic health record (EHR) and improve patient encounters."

Advantages to the Practice

"SpeechMike Air has been a fabulous addition to our practice." The Bluetooth technology makes the process of getting dictation into a patient's electronic chart simpler and extremely convenient. There are no cables to hook up because the unit communicates through its AirBridge device. Snider carries the ergonomic microphone in his lab coat pocket and no longer has to haul a laptop around the office. He just tucks his wireless notebook device under his arm when he goes in to see patients and can dictate into the hand mike in the exam room during the visit.

Workflow in the practice is tremendously enhanced with SpeechMike Air helping to keep him on schedule. "It saves me one to two hours a day in dictation time - something that has not gone unnoticed by my associates who plan to follow my lead," said Dr. Snider. Additionally, the wireless solution has further reduced the administrative workload, enabling a reduction in transcriptionist's hours from full-time to part-time. "SpeechMike Air is more than paying for itself by saving on these costly services."

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Dr. Robb Snider, M.D.



There has also been an improvement in the accuracy and completeness of patients' records. Real-time dictation, even while in the exam room with patients, Snider explains, is more accurate because your thoughts are clearer, recollections fresher and you can remember details more precisely.

According to Snider, another big plus is that physicians who refer patients to the practice appreciate the almost instantaneous turnaround time the new process enables. In the past, referred patients' notes weren't always readily available; now they usually come through on the same day.

Advantages at the Hospital

As big a difference as SpeechMike Air makes for the practice, dictating wirelessly is as valuable - if not more so - on rounds at the hospital. The local hospital has recently gone fully electronic and is requiring physicians to enter progress notes directly into its EHR. “Imagine how difficult this is for physicians who don't type very fast!” said Dr. Snider. His process of dictating directly into the hospital progress notes with SpeechMike Air has generated quite a lot of interest among those eyeing his technique.

Dr. Snider uses a laptop with the Philips AirBridge in the hospital to dictate changes and orders into the EHR while in the patient's room or outside the door. This eliminates the step of writing notes and entering them later, saving him valuable time.

Advantages for the Patients

Even patients are impressed with the technology when their physician dictates in their presence. They hear their visit recorded in sufficient detail to reassure them that what was discussed was documented, especially in the history, impression and plan. These specifics are important in many aspects: the patient's eligibility for medical devices, extent of insurance claims or for legal matters.

“If patients need their notes, I can give them a printed copy before they leave the office,” Dr. Snider added.

Untethered Wave of the Future

SpeechMike Air features a dictation microphone, playback speaker, dictation control and PC navigation in a single device. Using only the Philips' Quick Start Guide, Dr. Snider found SpeechMike Air very easy to learn to use, since it interfaces with Dragon seamlessly. “Some physicians that I see still using laptops on rounds are very ready to leave the wires behind.”

Dr. Snider sums up his experience: “The new SpeechMike Air wireless dictating solution keeps me on top of my game in these demanding times where efficiency can make or break a practice.”



For more information:

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