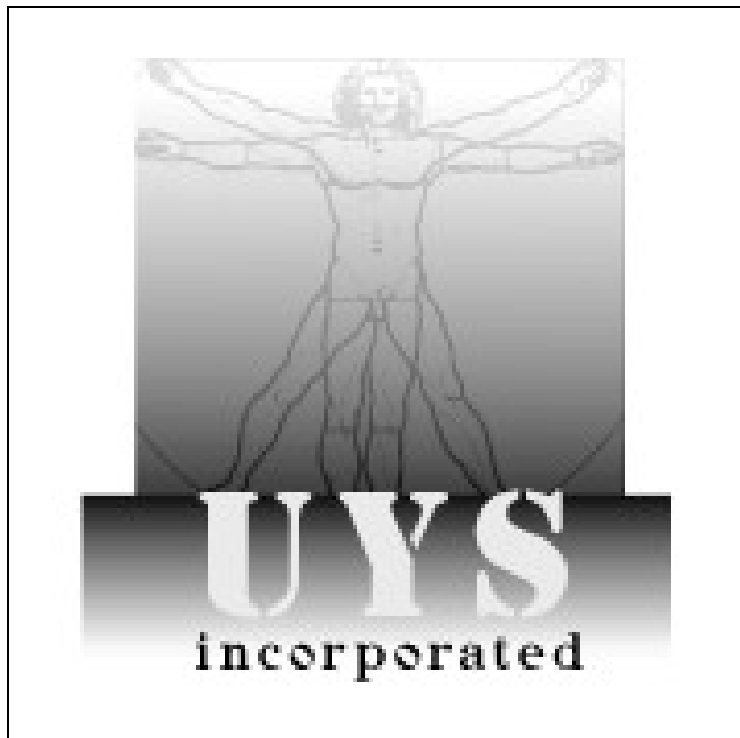


Sign Physician Orders Module



12460 Crabapple Road
Suite 202, #321
Alpharetta, GA 30004

www.uysinc.com

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Sign Physician Orders

Objective

To provide a simple, comprehensive function that permits physicians to identify all the current patients that have unsigned orders that had been entered on that physician's behalf by their agent(s).

Background

Orders entered by **An Agent for the Physician** with a status of unsigned typically require an electronic signature to be retrospectively applied by a physician. Orders entered by a physician's agent that lack category code UJC (written order) or UJD (adjusting or secondary order) do not contain the Series 7000 signature flag. The inability of the Eclipsys 7000 Series to effectively and efficiently identify those patients with unsigned orders for a specific physician has resulted in poor compliance of signing verbal orders. The UYS developed "Sign Orders Solution" provides a mechanism that is so simple to use that the barriers confronting the physician are removed.

Problem

The Eclipsys Series 7000 system does not provide a mechanism that automatically links a patient to a physician as a result of an order being entered. A physician can only identify those patients on their Patient List (DPF) that have unsigned orders.

Solution

The UYS Sign Orders Solution is used to track the writing and signing of unsigned orders "real time". We have elected to use optimally keyed VSAM (Virtual Storage Access Method) files to store information on every unsigned order, indexed by both patient and physician. Using VSAM offers definitive advantages over Series 7000 EXDEF (Externally Defined) files, including:

- Capability to create alternate indices
- Ability to access the files off-line and by non- Series 7000, non-proprietary methods
- Files can be accessed even if Series 7000 is off-line

Once implemented, the physicians will be able to quickly and easily identify ALL patient's that have unsigned orders entered against their DPF number. Not just those patients on their list, or on their group's patient list, but every active patient and episode in the facility as defined by the patient types selected by the facility (active patient's are those within the PLF).

Our solution uses SERIES 7000's M1AATB table to create and update VSAM records "real-time". Each time an unsigned order is written or signed a tracking record is written or updated respectively in the Sign Orders Reference file. Unlike other solutions, the UYS solution tracks each unsigned order and therefore requires that all orders entered for a particular physician be signed before the patient will no longer appear in that physicians list of patients having unsigned orders. The physician's list of patient's having unsigned orders is independent of their Patient List (DPF) and the manual dependencies of the DPF.

The solution can be implemented in two ways; either with existing pathways that require the physician to make a passive selection to sign their orders or with a more aggressive pathway that requires the physician to sign their orders before they can proceed to their DPF list and other functionality.

Overview

What does the UYS Solution to sign orders provide Series 7000 users? Once implemented, physicians will be able to quickly and easily identify ALL patient's that have unsigned orders entered against their DPF number. Not just those patients on their list, or on their group's patient list, but every active patient episode in the facility as defined by the patient types selected by the facility (active patient's are those within the PLF).

Depending upon how aggressive the facility wants to be about forcing compliance in getting orders signed on Series 7000, Sign Orders can be implemented non-invasively, invasively or some combination of each. The non-invasive implementation replaces the current passive sign orders pathway with a retrieval of **all** patients for which a physician has unsigned orders that were written against their doctor number (DPF). Once the patient's are identified the physician can elect to sign only the orders written for them, or review all the unsigned orders that the patient may have (and sign them if desired).

The actual retrieval shell for signing orders uses Route Code 7 to decrease the verbiage of the order, eliminating the unnecessary text and providing a more succinct order that also permits more orders to be signed in a single message. An "all of the above" feature can also be utilized which permits signing all orders on a screen with a single selection.

The invasive implementation includes the coding necessary to force a physician into the signed orders pathways by not permitting access to the other pathways except with an optional emergency bypass. The physicians must either sign or delete all unsigned orders associated with their doctor number before performing other functions within the system. The emergency bypass feature allows the physician to go directly to their patient list to place orders once per sign on and the use of the bypass can be tracked and reported by physician to identify those individuals who routinely "skip over" the unsigned orders.

Statistical reports are also provided to track the improvement in sign order compliance throughout and after the implementation of the module. Derived from information collected in the VSAM file, the following statistics are provided:

- Average number of days from order entry to order signing by physician
- Total number of signed orders by physician
- Orders remaining unsigned at episode close by physician
- Average number of days from order entry to order signing by service
- Total number of signed orders by service
- Orders remaining unsigned at episode close by service
- Average number of days from order entry to order signing for the facility
- Total number of signed orders for the facility
- Orders remaining unsigned at episode close for the facility

Implementation Effort

The entire implementation effort requires 1 - 2 weeks depending upon the methodology (or methodologies) elected. While UYS does not require on-site activation support for this module, on-site support can be arranged.

Assets

The following is a list of the assets that are included with the UYS Sign Order Module:

- **Consulting Support**
One of UYS' Consultant will work with your IS staff in the installation of the Module. Once installed, the Consultant will provide guidance and instruction during the testing and validation process.
- **Report Format Tables**
The Report Format Tables (RFT) are tools used to read the PLF and populate the files, validate the records, and create and update the records for signed and unsigned orders.
- **Job Control Language**
Sample JCL is provided for creating the Sign Order Reference VSAM file and for creating the alternate index to the file. The UYS consultant will work with your technical staff to customize the JCL for your site
- **Hospital Parameter Tables**
The Hospital Parameter Tables (HPT Keys) are the tools that define the Sign Order Reference file and alternate index to Series 7000.
- **Retrieval Management Table**
A Retrieval Management Table (GENGEN) is a retrieval key used with Advanced Route Code 7 for qualifying and concatenating unsigned orders.
- **Matrices**
Two sets of matrices, one for each implementation methodology, are provided and relocated to your matrix pack.
- **Work Plan**
A Microsoft Access based work plan for implementing the Sign Physician Order Module.
- **Sign Physician Order Module User's Guide**
A Portable Document Format (PDF) format User's Guide to implement the module

About UYS

UYS is a leading Healthcare Information Technology consulting company dedicated to providing solutions to assist healthcare enterprises in optimizing clinical, patient management and financial systems. We accomplish this by providing Technical Consultants that possess unsurpassed knowledge and experience of the systems they support. We take pride in understanding the needs of our clients and the potential of the systems that we support. Our mission is to provide quality consulting, together with unique solutions for today's healthcare challenges.