

# How Apple can revolutionize Healthcare

## iPhone3G

As we talk about electronic health records (EHR), and how hospitals and providers are embracing it to improve patient safety. With the introduction of the new iPhone3G, electronic health records are now going beyond the computer and into the iPhones. Hand held devices are always popular with physicians (tablet pcs and pdas). Now, consumers and providers can access health records on their phones.

Some current applications available online at the apple store

**Medfile** – Developed by Kaplan design lets users create and manage their personal medical records. Information such as blood type, allergies and emergency contact etc can be stored and retrieved.

**ADAM** – An application that lets the users identify health symptoms. From a simple sprain to fever, and upset stomach, ADAM gives users access to up-to-date medical information that is expert-reviewed. The tool also provides information on what the symptoms mean and when to seek professional medical attention.

## iPad

When Steve Jobs released the Apple's latest creation the iPad, he described the iPad as a magical and revolutionary device. Whether it is truly revolutionary from a technology standpoint or not, is a debate best reserved for the tech pundits like Endgadget. But we are more interested how it can revolutionize health care. So here is how we think the iPad can do this.

1. Accelerate electronic medical records adoption in hospitals- eMR and eHR have been talked about for a while but there is still a lot of resistance and inertia in the healthcare community. We think the popularity of the iPad can help change that in a way tablet pcs never could.
2. Apps for healthcare- The iPad will serve as a platform for all those innovative app developers. Everything from scheduling a doctor's visit to viewing your x-ray (yes on that gorgeous AMOLED 9.7 inch screen ).
3. Paperless for real – Remove clutter and Free up space in Emergency departments and urgent care clinics- There is no need for a registration desk with a big clunky desktop.
4. More time at bedside and with the patient –The iPad adoption in hospitals can reduce time doctors and nurses spend walking to a nurse's station or desk to wait for results or write orders and spend more time at bed side. Which means that they can focus more on taking care of you working on the iPad.
5. Improve communication and entertainment options – Remember the last time you were at your Dentist or Doctor's office. What did you do in the waiting room? while you are reading your screen flashes with an update on your wait time, test result or even a prompt with some information on your illness. Same if you are in the waiting room of a surgery center eager to hear about your loved one. The possibilities are endless.

**Source:** <http://healthcaremanagementblog.com>