Change is inevitable

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Change in any business is inevitable when looking at the bigger picture or writing a five year business plan. It is for this reason that all successful businesses keep a close eye on changes, not only in their specific target market but also in those of others that may be of use to them.

By keeping up with changes in the world of technology a business can grow from strength-to-strength through utilising business tools best suited to them.

In the past two years vast changes have happened in the medical environment with the introduction of ICD-10 codes, Capitation and the Single Exit Price to name a few. Not only has change occurred on the business side of medicine but also in the development of new cures or the discovery of new viruses and other illnesses. It is thus of utmost importance that the medical practitioner stays ahead of the changes not only on the clinical side of the practice but also the administrative side.

Practice Management Software is specifically developed to take care of the business side of the practice enabling the medical practitioner to take care of patients and look after their best interests. By employing the correct management system, medical practitioners can use their spare time to further their knowledge of practicing up-to-date medicine.

There are currently many systems available for effective practice management incorporating basic accounting functions, payroll administration, payment solutions, ICD-10 coding, debt collecting, electronic data interchange (EDI) and various SMS services which assist in client management.

If a practice is already making use of an electronic practice management system it is also important to keep the software up-to-date, ensuring compliance and efficient systems. A recent change that has faced resistance from users is the change from a DOS operating system to Windows. Windows is user-friendly, intuitive to use, and requires less specialised training than DOS. With the proliferation of Windows-based computing across so many environments and the communications requirement across computing platforms, DOS is rapidly fading into the archives of computing history. It is believed that a Windows-based operating system in the practice enables users to be more productive and offers more computing power that assists in the proliferation of other Windows-based applications, particularly E-Mail and Internet.

A particularly important consideration when bringing technology into the practice is to use accredited and trusted advisors. Ensure that the company you want to deal with has a credible record in Service and Support, and that they have a professional development team capable of keeping your product up-to-date and taking you into the future. Finally, ensure that you only use products that are licensed and legal. If you run your practice on pirated software, you can face fines and more importantly, potential support problems as the chances are good that you will not be able to get, or they will not be able to offer proper support and training.

Change is always daunting but if you keep up with the fast pace of the technology age you will always be one step ahead of the world around you and it will enable you to take care of what matters most, your patients.