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Is the electronic medical record (EMR) only a modern way to keep track of patients and their health records, or could it be something more?

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Is the electronic medical record (EMR) only a modern way to keep track of patients and their health records, or could it be something more?

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Primary purpose

- document patient data
- communication



Secondary purpose

• to aid nonclinical use (e.g., billing, statistics, evaluation)



Another view of the record

The production of:

- patients' bodies
- bodies politics
- bodies of knowledge



Ascribed advantages of EMR

- no more search
- readable
- reduction of errors
- time saving
- cost saving
- statistics
- billing
- evaluation & research



EMR - Impact on organization

- two-way process
- change of work practices
- social consequences
- political consequences
- organizational development
- cross boundaries



EMR - Impact on research

- improvements of research
- better patient body
- broader data input



