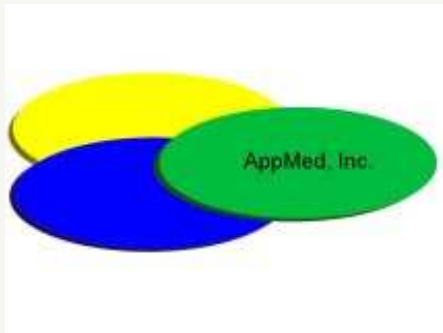


# VERSION 4.0 UPDATE

May 2009

Applications for Medicine

## *AppMed Releases Software Version 4.0*



Summer 2009 is upon us and we have been working hard this winter and spring to add several new features to AppMed. The result is our newest release, AppMed Version 4.0.

This new release adds several completely new functions and ideas to AppMed. It had been our intention from early in the process to change the major version number from 3 to 4. The most recent version of AppMed at this point had been version 3.7.7. There will be no 3.8 or 3.9.

Main focus of this update: Image and Document Storage, Improved Patient Level Payment Posting and Improved Performance

### *Image and Document Storage*

Many practices are beginning to look for ways to reduce the amount of paper they currently use. Digitizing patient information that has traditionally been stored in charts is an attractive and cost-effective way to reduce storage needs and expenses.

Each patient file in AppMed now contains a new tab positioned after the Comments tab. It is called Images.

#### **Image and Document Storage:**

As we begin to migrate to a less paper intense (notice I didn't say paperless) way of operating, AppMed now allows you to store scanned images, documents, photos, or any other digital file with a patient record.

**Improved Performance:** As many of our clients have now been using AppMed for over five years, many of their databases are growing quite large. As databases grow, overall speed is diminished due to the increased number of records that need to be considered. We have been spending a great deal of time optimizing our program for improved performance.

**Improved Patient Level Payment Posting:** The Add Transaction feature in the Patient Ledger screen gets a complete make-over in version 4.0.

A supplemental sheet describing this feature is included.

#### **APPMED PROGRAM OPTIONS**

- ◆ AppMed EMR is now available. Contact us to get information or to schedule a time for a presentation.
- ◆ AppMed now offers an upgraded patient appointment scheduling program. This program supports viewing multiple doctors on the same page and other enhancements. Call us to get more information.



graphs from a digital camera into the new Images tab.

Using this new feature requires the re-installation of the AppMed program. Instructions regarding removing and re-installing AppMed is included in an additional, companion document.

This document is also available on our website at [www.appmed.com](http://www.appmed.com).

Using a scanner attached to your computer you can now store any single or multiple page document and associate it directly to the patient.

You can scan and store a digital copy of anything from the initial patient registration form to insurance cards, driver licenses or any other text based, scanned image.

You can also paste any other digital still image such as photo-



## Improved Performance

The AppMed backend database where all of your patients, their encounters, claims, transactions, insurance companies, CPT and ICD9 codes and much more are stored. Most of our clients currently use Microsoft Access as the backend database.

Microsoft Access is part of the Microsoft Office group of programs and is found in the MS Office Professional version. Microsoft intended it to be used as a small desktop relational database with a bit more power than the traditional Ms Excel spreadsheet program.

Until 2007 this was the only database available for the AppMed program. Since then we now offer the MS SQL Server database option for larger, more robust computing requirements. This program is known as AppMed Symphony.

Over time, Microsoft Access databases can get large and performance can rely heavily on how well the application (the user interface, or what you see on screen) actually behaves.

Lately, we have been working to improve overall performance from the application. This will not be a single event. We will con-

tinue to fine tune the performance characteristics of all of our programs from now on.

We know there are limitations to what we can expect MS Access to provide in practices with large patient volume and with several workstations in a Local Area Network or LAN. That is why we developed the MS SQL Server database option for AppMed and we encourage users with more than 3 computers to contact us regarding updating to the AppMed Symphony program.

## Improved Patient Level Payment Posting

We have been spending a great deal of time improving the way you can post payments at the patient level.

In the patient Ledger screen, when you select the plus (+) to add a new transaction, a completely new set of choices now appears.

There are four new tabs beginning with Patient Payments, Insurance Payments,

Activity Transfers and Non Encounter Transactions.

The new Patient Payments section allows you to post a patient payment and deploy the total payment amount over several encounters.

The new Insurance Payments section works similarly to the PIP. It allows you to add the Allowed, Paid, Ins Adjustment, Deductible and

Co-insurance all in one screen.

The Activity Transfer screen allows you to move a credit from an encounter to any other encounters with remaining balances.

The Non Encounter Transaction screen looks and acts just like the original Add Transaction screen from the Patient Ledger.

“NOW APPMED  
ALLOWS YOU TO  
POST A SINGLE  
PATIENT CHECK  
PAYMENT OVER  
SEVERAL  
ENCOUNTERS.”

## Patient Chargeslips

In the last version of AppMed (3.7) we added a built-in patient chargeslip feature. It is part of the program you now have and there is no additional charge.

To see the chargelip set up screen, go to Settings and click on Charge Slip SetUp.

You will need to make a call to Scott or Jeff for some short instructions and tips on how to use this new feature.

To begin you can simply enter a code in the Codes column and press the tab key. It will automatically update the description. If you would like to edit the description, you can.

You can organize different groups of codes (i.e. Office Visits) by typing Group 1 in the Codes field and then adding your own description.

Then for the next group type Group 2 and later Group 3 and so on.

## New Featured Report

There is a new report in AppMed WHICH IS located in the Monthly Financial Reports section. It is called Procedure Payment Analysis by CPT.

It is similar to the other Procedure Payment Analysis reports but is developed as a way to view procedures that were paid during a specific PAYMENT date range.

This is useful for viewing payments for specific providers in your office during a month by the code that was billed.