

Angel M. Rios, MD – WTxHITREC Provider Spotlight

Angel M. Rios, MD, West Texas Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (WTxHITREC) member and practicing Obstetrics & Gynecology physician in El Paso, TX, has been recognized for his meaningful use (MU) achievement of electronic health records (EHR). With this recognition, Dr. Rios and his staff have earned the distinction as leaders in health information technology.

Since 1993, Dr. Rios has offered quality medical services through his private practice in El Paso and typically serves patients with a lower-income level with approximately 80% of his patients being Medicaid beneficiaries. As he continues to dedicate his time to serving patients, he also understands the value of adopting an EHR and the barriers that may come along with the implementation process.

Although Dr. Rios achieved MU in 2014, it did not come without a few challenges. He talked about how it was a lengthy process to find the best EHR solution for his practice and how he had to work with multiple EHR vendors to find the best fit. He focused his search to find a concrete system with a few key components, including a strong emphasis on customer service, onsite trainings, and the ability to customize the system with additional templates.

Additionally, Dr. Rios mentioned how “attesting to MU is not easy and the WTxHITREC helped him during the certification process to understand the requirements, gather all the documentation needed, and to submit the information during attestation.”

Furthermore, as he worked through achieving MU, this also resulted in the use of the patient portal. Dr. Rios discussed how “patients are happy with the portal because the information is transparent and they can access all the information from there, like the clinical summaries and the patient education.” As for next steps, Dr. Rios plans to continue educating his staff on the use of EHRs.

For more information on EHR adoption, achieving MU, EHR incentive payments, and other services provided by the WTxHITREC, please call (806) 743-7960, email info@wtxhitrec.org or visit www.wtxhitrec.org.