Tips for Using Patient Portal Questionnaires



An increasing number of neurologists are using electronic health records (EHRs) with integrated patient portals. In addition to allowing patients access to their own health information, portals have many other features such as scheduling and messaging capabilities. Many portals also support the use of questionnaires.

There are many potential benefits to the use of patient portal questionnaires. They can:

- Easily integrate patient provided information into your EHR
- Improve visit efficiency by saving clinicians' time
- Improve patient satisfaction as the portal allows them to more easily and conveniently track their symptoms (such as seizure frequency or migraine triggers)
- Allow key information to be more easily tracked over time for both clinical and research purposes
- Improve adherence to quality measures and quality measure reporting—critical in new payment models

The AAN has developed standardized questionnaires that are disease specific, incorporate AAN guidelines and quality measures, and have been vetted by clinical experts. The initial set up of the questionnaires will vary depending on your EHR. To begin set up, first:

- Consult your EHR's user guide or your EHR support team
- Follow your local process to get new content built into your system
- Make decisions about how you'd like this information pulled into the EHR (e.g., directly into progress notes versus kept separately)

Once the questionnaire is built your practice can:

- Push it out to patients prior to the patient visit
- Be notified once the questionnaire is completed by the patient
- Review information easily and verify it with patients at their visit

Please contact Elizabeth Bradshaw at ebradshaw@aan.com with any questions.