

RECORD VITAL SIGNS

(Core Objective #4)

OBJECTIVE: Record and chart changes in the following vital signs: height/length and weight (no age limit); blood pressure (ages 3 and over); calculate and display body mass index (BMI); and plot and display growth charts for patients 0-20 years, including BMI.

MEASURE: More than 80 percent of all unique patients seen by the EP have blood pressure (for patients age 3 and over only) and/or height and weight (for all ages) recorded as structured data.

EXCLUSION: Any EP who:

- (1) Sees no patients 3 years or older is excluded from recording blood pressure.
- (2) Believes that all 3 vital signs of height/length, weight, and blood pressure have no relevance to their scope of practice is excluded from recording them.
- (3) Believes that height/length and weight are relevant to their scope of practice, but blood pressure is not, is excluded from recording blood pressure.
- (4) Believes that blood pressure is relevant to their scope of practice, but height/length and weight are not, is excluded from recording height/length and weight.

CMS Website for Clinical Summary Measure:

http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/downloads/Stage2_EPCore_4_RecordVitalSigns.pdf

PowerSoftMD Video Link:

<http://www.powersoftmd.com/FlashMU/VitalSigns.htm>

NUMERATOR: (Patients Credited) Matching patients with at least one entry for height, weight, and/or blood pressure (BP only required if 3 years of age or older) recorded.

DENOMINATOR: (Patients Considered) Total Number of Unique Patients seen in the Reporting Period.

HOW TO:

Method 1) From the Patient's EMR Profile screen, click the “**Vital**” Icon or the “**Vital Signs**” tab and enter the vitals.

The screenshot shows the PowerSoftMD EMR interface. At the top is a menu bar with options: Menu, Lock, Help, Find Pat, Scheduled Pats, Clear Fields, Print, Reports, Tools, Undo, Window, MU Central. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for Save, Profile, Over, Pats, Find, Prev, Next, Soap, Image, Word, Notes, Docs, Vital, Flow, Sched, Print, Files, and Exit. The patient information section displays: 13 DUCK, DONALD, D, DOB 02121968, Age 47, 1, 058-UNITED HEALTHCARE. Below this are tabs for Documents, Images, Letters, Audio Notes, Disease Registry, Patient Profile, Problem List, Meds, SOAP, Treatment Notes, and Vital Signs. The Patient Profile tab is active, showing patient details for DONALD D DUCK, 2900 Grand Ave, Galveston, TX 77556, and contact information. There are also sections for Habits (Alcohol, HIV Risk, Lifeguard Hx, Smoking, Sun Bathing, Tanning, Toxic Exposure, Works Outdoors) and Family History (Relationship, DOB, Description). A photo of Donald Duck is visible. Red arrows point to the 'Vital' icon in the toolbar (labeled 1) and the 'Vital Signs' tab (labeled 2).

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Method 2) Open a patient's SOAP Note screen and use the Vital Signs button.

NOTE: You can set vital signs to prompt every time you open a new SOAP note.

The screenshot shows a medical software interface. At the top is a menu bar with options: Menu, Lock, Blank, Help, Find, Left, Tools, Spell, Journal, Sign, Window. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for New, Save, Profile, Over, Pats, Find, Prev, Next, Post, Tmpl, Flow, Script. The main area displays patient information: '13 DUCK DONALD D'. On the left is a 'Photo' section with a cartoon image of Donald Duck and a 'History Dates' list: 03/26/2015, 03/17/2015, 03/12/2015, 01/15/2015. The 'MEDICAL' section contains a checkbox 'No Change from R/OV of Form Dated', a 'Vital Signs' button (highlighted with a red arrow), 'Load Vital Signs', 'MU Components', and an 'ALLERGIES' section with a 'None' checkbox. To the right is a 'Chief Complaints' section with 'Pop Up List' and 'Short Cuts' buttons, and a 'History of Present Illness' section.

PLEASE NOTE: You must enter height, weight and/or blood pressure for the item to count. When you do this the BMI will automatically be calculated and recorded for you.

The screenshot shows the 'Vital Signs' dialog box. At the top are tabs: Clear Fields, View Graphs, Metric Calculations. Below is a patient information header: Exam Date (03262015), Acct No (00013), Name (DUCK DONALD D), DOB (02121968), Sex (Male). The main area contains input fields for: Weight (Lbs, Oz), Height (Feet, Inches), Head Circum (Inches), Temperature, Temp Location, Respirations, Blood Pressure, Glucose mg/dL, Pulse Rhythm, Pulse Rate, Pulse O₂ (%), LMP, and a Comment field. A red arrow labeled '1' points to the 'Vital Signs' button. Below the input fields is a 'Vital Sign History' table with columns: Exam Date, Wt, lbs, Oz, Ht, ft, in, T, R, BP, P, Ryt, Glu, LMP. The table contains one entry: 03172015, Wt:120 lbs 4 Oz, Ht:5ft 11in, T: , R: , BP:120/80, P: , Ryt: , Glu: , LMP: , BMI:16.7. A red arrow labeled '2' points to the 'Vital Signs' button. At the bottom are buttons: Save, Vital Signs, View Deleted Entries, Report, Cancel, Save/Exit.