

# ArcBI TS Newsletter

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## ArcSys Hot Tip

The Wikipedia entry for SNOMED CT is a good place to get an introduction to the coding scheme which will become a major part of all medical records. Briefly, it provides for consistent information interchange and is fundamental to an interoperable electronic health record.

## MU Certification Passed!

After 10 months of development and testing, ArcSys is quite happy to report that we passed our testing phase with Drummond for Meaningful Use Stage 2. What a relief! Within another month we hopefully will receive our official certification and our number will be posted on the ONC website.

It is somewhat obvious from our experience that the whole process of achieving MU is stacked against the small business. There are so many parts to research, read, digest, and implement that it can literally swamp a business of our size. There are literally dozens of technical documents that are over 500 pages and it isn't a simple matter of scanning the table of contents—in most cases it required reading the whole publication. There are massive tables of data that needed to be downloaded from websites and then converted into Red Planet files for integration. In order to meet testing requirements, we implemented numerous testing programs which took data and performed auto-data entry into Red Planet screens. This way we could test countless scenarios to verify integrity and accuracy.

On too many occasions our reading and interpretation of requirements would lead us in the wrong direction and would necessitate massive re-writes of code.

In looking over the past 10 months it is quite apparent that we severely underestimated the complexity of the project. This is important, because we feel it is going to be another massive undertaking to get a medical practice converted to using MU2. If you feel it has been hard getting your numbers to meet MU1, you have but a tiny inkling of what you are in for with MU2.

Briefly, a medical practice will be collecting *more* information on:

- Family History
- Medical Visits
- Lab Orders
- Medication Orders
- X-ray Orders
- Setting up Clinical Decision Support
- Setting up User Access Rules
- Clinical Quality Measures

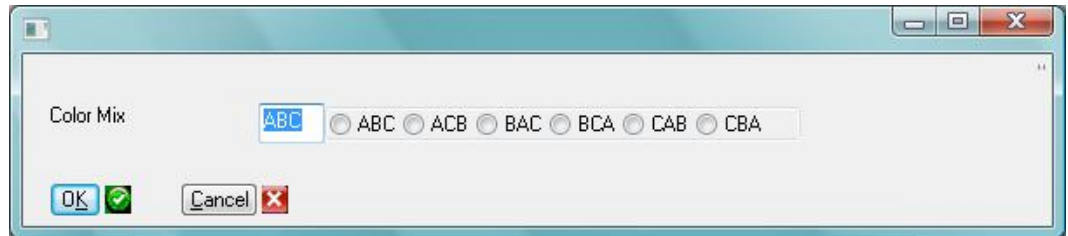
So, get ready. In the same way we were swamped, you too will be swamped. It is going to take extra time to complete the documentation for a visit and it will take a fair amount of training to get your staff sufficiently prepped.



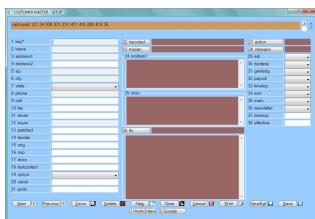
## New Color Schemes



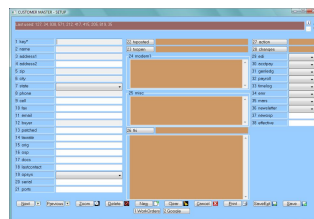
When selecting a color scheme, there is a new option available that will provide you with 6 times the number of choices. For instance, let's say you selected the palette known as Natural. The color window shows you the box shown at the left. If you selected Natural-352-4 (the fourth row), then another box appears as shown below.



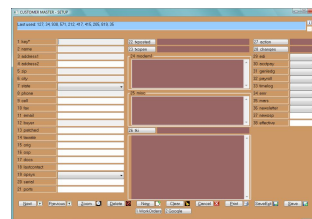
Notice at the top of the window on the left are the letters A, B, C. By choosing ABC (default) you are saying the color in the first column is your primary background, the second column is used for the help/message bar, and the third for boxes.



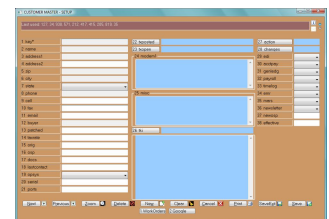
ABC



ACB



BAC



BCA

## ONC, CMS Proposes an Extension to MU2 Requirements

At a high level overview, this recent proposal from ONC/CMS states that:

1. 2011 Edition certified EHRs are basically still valid for providers to use in Meaningful Use (MU) attestation during the current Fiscal Year/Calendar Year 2014 and
2. EPs and EHs/CAHs who were on schedule to start Stage 2 in FY/CY 2014 may elect to use Stage 1 measures instead of the MU attestation.

In a nutshell, it basically means we are repeating FY/CY 2013 all over again in terms of 2011 Edition **and** 2014 Edition certified EHRs being permissible for MU attestation. Thus, those 2011 Edition certifications would no longer be considered effectively "expired," but are now still "valid" for MU attestation in FY/CY 2014.

If approved, the impact is significant. providers that have not yet upgraded their EHRs to 2014 Edition certified systems may keep their 2011 Edition certified system and still attest to MU this year. Organizations that have already upgraded can elect to use the "easier" Stage 1 measures for MU attestation. Vendors who are only certified to 2011 Edition can still promote their EHRs are viable for MU attestation. Vendors with 2014 Edition certified EHRs, or currently in plans for 2014 Edition certification, may either relax their rollout dates or adjust their customer support as necessary. Vendors who have not yet started the process of 2014 Edition certification have a little more time. This is really only a 3-month extension to the current "deadline" to implement 2014 Edition CEHRT.

(See: [http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-11944\\_PI.pdf](http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-11944_PI.pdf))