



Malpractice and Medical Errors Tapped to Improve Patient Safety and Reduce Claims

RMF Strategies Leverages Data Nationally to Enhance Risk Management and Loss Prevention

MAY 1, 2003, BOSTON—RMF Strategies today announced a new technology and knowledge management solution to analyze malpractice claims, improving patient care and reducing the legal and financial risk associated with the practice of medicine. The new **Risk Intelligence Platform**® powers the Decision Support System, which complements the RMF Strategies Product Suite® of information systems currently used by health care systems, hospitals, and insurers worldwide.

“In an era when physicians in entire regions are being forced to move or give up their practices due to extreme malpractice premiums, RMF Strategies offers proven methods of loss prevention and risk management to expose and eliminate weaknesses that often lead to medical errors and malpractice claims,” said Ed Trautman, president of RMF Strategies. “The implicit yet obvious connection between malpractice claims and unsafe medical practices has yet to enter the patient safety discussion in a broad way,” he continued. “RMF Strategies brings new technologies like the Risk Intelligence Platform as well as a wealth of data and analysis derived from the nation’s leading medical institutions that enable providers and insurers to address this issue head-on.”

Born of Risk Management Foundation of the Harvard Medical Institutions, RMF Strategies’ unique approach leverages more than 25 years of comparative data from malpractice claims that have been tested and acted upon to create best practices in leading medical institutions. Use of this data enables hospitals, health care systems and

insurers to identify vulnerabilities and develop best practices across all disciplines. The result is reduced medical errors and a lower cost of risk for caregivers.

For example, while breast cancer cases rose dramatically during the 1990s, the Harvard Medical Institutions have seen malpractice cases and claims associated with the disease dramatically decline since 2000.

Jack McCarthy, president of Risk Management Foundation, stated, “Risk Management Foundation wanted to extend the knowledge gained from over 25 years of gathering and analyzing comparative data from the Harvard Medical Institutions. Our mission has been to identify and enable best practices in some of the world’s leading medical institutions, to improve patient safety and lower the cost of risk to our member institutions. Our efforts have led to some of the lowest malpractice premiums in the country.”

Contact

Anthony Parrinello
RMF Strategies
617.679.1507
aparrinello@rmfstrategies.com

John Smith
Brodeur Worldwide
617.587.2873
jsmith@brodeurworldwide.com

RMF Strategies products and services offer evidence-based knowledge management solutions that enable health care providers to address the burgeoning problems associated with medical errors and the growing cost of risk.

Offerings include:

1) Information Systems – The modular *RMF Strategies Product Suite*[®] includes all the software system components necessary to conduct and administer risk management operations. The interactive *RMF Strategies Decision Support System*[®] is an information management portal powered by the Risk Intelligence Platform[®], used to identify, analyze, benchmark and report areas of risk.

2) Consulting Services – RMF Strategies offers proven approaches to understand and manage risk in several areas including risk assessment, loss prevention, patient safety, and claims and litigation management.

3) Educational Resources – Case and evidence-based risk management programs, products, services, publications and online courses.

RMF Strategies current clients include Cleveland Clinic, Inova, MedStar, University of Colorado, University of Maryland, University of Massachusetts, OHIC Insurance Company, the HUM Division of MLMIC, VHA, and CRICO (Harvard Medical Institutions and MIT).

About RMF Strategies

RMF Strategies offers evidence-based health care risk management products and solutions based on methods tested with over 25 years of data from leading medical institutions. The company is focused on lowering the cost of risk and preventing loss through the reduction of costly medical errors and fostering best practices in health care systems, commercial and captive medical malpractice insurers, and hospitals. Products and solutions include state-of-the-art methodologies, software tools, and consulting services to control risk and improve patient safety. RMF Strategies also offers organizations the opportunity to participate in a national community working to leverage the power of real data, compare performance, effect patient safety and drive organizational change. RMF Strategies serves some 46,900 physicians, 497 hospitals, and 2,400 subsidiary corporations in 40 states and is an operating division of Risk Management Foundation of the Harvard Medical Institutions. ■