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About Us

Parallax Solutions is an information technology consulting firm located in the Cedar Valley. What we are trying to bring to the table is a clear understanding of how offices can utilize hardware and software to effectively manage their electronic information.

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I hope you have enjoyed this issue of our newsletter. If you are concerned that your network isn't living up to its potential, give us a call.

Sincerely,

Steve Bantz
Health
Information Technology
Consultant
Parallax Solutions
319.235.8034

Featured Products

[Dragon Naturally Speaking Medical](#)

Issue: # 11

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Welcome to the latest newsletter from Parallax Solutions. In this issue, I will be discussing voice recognition software and what you need to get started. Many healthcare providers are using voice recognition software in conjunction with electronic medical records to help cut down on transcription costs. You may find you can easily pay for your EHR through transcription savings alone!



Is voice recognition ready for prime time?

In short, yes. Voice recognition has been around for a while, but over the last few years it has really blossomed with stronger operating systems and more powerful computers. If you spend time with the software and truly train it to know you, you will reap the benefits of increased accuracy which in turn yields a great time savings. We all know how much transcription costs a practice each year. If you crunch the numbers, you may find that a good chunk of your EHR could be paid for just in transcription savings alone.

Which products work well? Nuance has been in the business for a long time, producing Dragon Naturally Speaking (formerly Dragon Dictate) for the general consumer and [Dragon Naturally Speaking Medical](#) for the healthcare professional. The medical edition has been specifically designed to recognize the lexicon so often used in medical office dictation. A common frustration with voice recognition is its limited ability to recognize specialty terms, such as diagnosis and prescribed medications. The Medical edition solves this by coming preloaded with thousands of terms specific to medicine.

The key to your success is having the hardware to make the product work for you. The workstation should be modern technology with at least 2GB of RAM when working within Windows XP Professional. In addition, a noise canceling microphone should be used to ensure clear communication to the software. Users have had great success with the VXi Talkpro USB 100 microphone that can be commonly found on the Internet for around \$70. I can't stress how important it is to have a high horsepower machine and a good microphone. You wouldn't drop a 4 cylinder in a Corvette and expect to have Autobahn performance capability.

Another thing to note is that voice recognition is not just for dictating a progress note on a patient. You can train it to perform common functions within the EHR, such as creating a

new prescription order, signing off notes, etc. It can be an all around boost for your productivity. A lot of electronic health record packages have integrated support for Dragon Naturally Speaking, which shows how well voice recognition has adapted to the medical office setting.

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