

ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS AND PROFESSIONAL WILLS

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For an executor to be able to have access to an electronic medical record, certain legal requirements need to be met. If they have not been put in place by prearrangement, the process of getting access to the record can take days and can be extremely difficult if the necessary documents are not available. I have not surveyed all medical record providers. My provider, Valant requires "a signed letter on company letterhead stating that in the event of your inability to manage your account the ownership should go to (executor name). As long as it is signed by the account owner that will be sufficient." They recommend that such a letter be put on file to facilitate emergency access.

Is it possible to establish an executor and put them on record with Valant so that they are pre-approved to receive the record in the advent of an emergency. In my case Valant recommend that the account owner "set them up as an Account Champion and they could take over as Account Signatory given the letter mentioned above is on file. In this event, if they could also be added as an Office Staff at that point ..." in order to get access to the full Valant account.

I would recommend anyone who has an EMR check with their service to make sure they have the proper documentation.

Take home:

1. Clinicians using EMR's should check what documentation is necessary for emergency access.
2. Execute the needed documents and put them in place.

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