

## ADDITIONAL QUOTES – From Dr. Garner Klein

Garner F. Klein, MD, Executive Director of Valley Health Care Network (956-389-6742; [garner.klein@valleybaptist.net](mailto:garner.klein@valleybaptist.net)), said the Centricity Electronic Medical Record is “very nice – and for new patients, it’s invaluable.”

“The nationwide efforts to promote implementation of Electronic Medical Records (EMR) received a major boost during the past year from two sources,” Dr. Klein said. “First, President Bush issued an executive order on August 22, 2006 mandating certain adoption of quality and interoperability standards for EMR. Second, both the Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) issued rulings creating safe harbors for hospitals supporting EMR development in physician offices. These are exciting times for physicians and patients.”



The easing of restrictions under the Stark regulations now allows hospitals to subsidize the cost of electronic medical record systems for physicians, as the government seeks to encourage wider use of computerized medical records.

Physicians who take advantage of the Centricity Ambulatory EMR offered by Valley Baptist also will be able to collect performance data which will help them to participate in pay-for-performance and quality improvement programs.

“Valley Baptist Health System can provide expert assistance to Valley physicians interested in making a smooth switch from paper to electronic records -- for every step of the process from licensing to assessment to implementation,” Dr. Klein added.