Epic offers risk-scoring algorithms to prioritize patients

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Epic provides risk-scoring algorithms that look at health factors to help organizations determine which appointments to reschedule first.

This comes after the COVID-19 pandemic caused health care organizations to cancel most routine and elective procedures. Now that health care facilities start offering those services again, reduced schedules, essential for social distancing, have put available appointments at a premium and generated a large backlog of patients waiting to be seen.

Some of the factors that the risk-scoring algorithm looks at include: age, chronic conditions, obesity and previous hospitalizations.

"We're helping hospitals and clinics understand how to prioritize appointments as they reopen, allowing patients to get the care they need while restoring the financial health of our customers," said Dr. Chris Mast, Epic's vice president of clinical informatics.

-By Stephanie Hoff

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