

EMPI CONSULTING SERVICES

Whether your organization is on the front edges of defining its EMPI requirements or in need of fine-tuning current EMPI search algorithms, you can depend on Just Associates consultants' wide breadth of EMPI experience to help address your organization's needs. Our firm focuses exclusively on the processes and technology that form the foundation for proper patient identification and electronic record linking. With years of experience working alongside our clients, we have developed an expert understanding of how to obtain and maintain clean MPIs and successfully connect MPIs within Integrated Delivery Networks and Health Information Exchanges. This broad understanding translates into how we can help you identify and define your EMPI requirements or fine-tune the system after implementation, so that you can improve delivery of patient care, while managing costs and streamlining related processes and operations.

Our EMPI consulting practice spans the spectrum of projects from requirements definition to fine tuning record matching algorithms. Through these projects, we have worked extensively with every major HIS and EMPI system in the market and have developed an understanding of each system's data model. This in depth understanding is brought to bear for all of our clients.

"From the beginning, Just Associates was intimately involved in our EMPI product implementation. They helped us with requirements, vendor selection, contract negotiations and product specifications, and stayed with us through testing and implementation. When we were up and running, Just Associates helped us fine-tune our patient registration and HIM cleanup processes to help us with ongoing duplicate prevention and duplicate management. Their knowledge and their experience were invaluable."

Grant Landsbach, RHIA
Data Integrity / EMPI Manager
Health Information Management
Exempla Healthcare, Denver, CO

EMPI Requirements Definition-RFP Creation: Just Associates' consultants take a comprehensive approach toward helping you clarify your EMPI needs. We can assess your organization's goals for record linking, provide an extensive list of EMPI functional and system requirements for defining your requirements, assist you with writing your RFP, help you sift through the various product offerings and provide recommendations on the solution that is tailor-fit to your organization's needs.

Proper configuration of the EMPI is essential in prevention of patient identification issues and problems. An example of this is designing guarantor data entry. Unless care is taken with how this function works, your organization may be inadvertently creating an overlay of patient information with guarantor information. Our in-depth understanding of database structure and the implications of the choices made during system design can help you implement the most optimal configuration.

Interfaces between systems either contribute to overall data integrity or represent a weak link that can cause costly integrity failures. Determining which classification a specific interface falls into requires a mature understanding of system complexities. Because of our experience with different systems, we can provide proper testing scenarios that will help you expose hidden weaknesses.

Improper data mapping can create expensive data integrity issues.

For example, when fields are not mapped to the correct field in the receiving system or if table-driven values are not converted properly, the validity of the receiving systems' information can be compromised. Our consultants work hand-in-hand with you to ensure data are mapped correctly and accurately.

After **root causes of patient and/or person identification issues** have been identified and plans undertaken to address outstanding concerns, it may be necessary to conduct an EMPI reconciliation (EMPI Cleanup) project to ensure that data among disparate databases are synchronized. Just Associates consultants have significant experience with **streamlining and automating** merge functions within various hospital/clinic information systems. When feasible, these types of scripts can save you thousands of hours of manual work and related personnel costs on a go-forward basis.

Preventative processes and technologies are the best strategies to minimize future data integrity issues. Just Associates assists you with this important initiative by providing best practices for naming conventions, data definitions, search routines and training modules that can be used by those employees performing data capture and those charged with keeping the data clean. Our extensive training modules for validating possible duplicate pairs are based on the same training we use for our own Patient Identity Experts. They significantly speed up staff training time, while also increasing accuracy and productivity.

Our **EMPI Maintenance Services** help you maintain the integrity of your EMPI. It is not enough that you identify and resolve your patient data integrity issues and cleanup the duplicate records. A diligent approach is needed to maintain the integrity of your EMPI's data over time. If your staff or resources are stretched or you want to access a broader experience base to enhance your efforts, then an outsourced EMPI Maintenance program can help insure that you maintain a high level of patient data integrity. Whether it is for immediate, short-term support or longer term, continuous monitoring, making use of Just Associates' trained, experienced staff and customized tools can allow you to meet your ongoing EMPI integrity goals, while minimizing the burden on your department, while at a reasonable cost to your organization.

About Just Associates

Just Associates is a health data integration consulting firm focused on data integrity. We provide technical consulting services that assess an organization's complete health information environment, including the people, processes and technologies that impact the integrity and accuracy of data captured by, stored within and transmitted across information systems. Our services include: MPI Cleanups, Data Integration and EMPI Consulting and Patient Identity Management Services.

For more information contact us at: 303-693-4727

Or visit us at: www.justassociates.com

WWW.JUSTASSOCIATES.COM

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