

Kaleida Health to Gain Both Immediate and Long-Term Benefits from mTuitive Surgical Reporting Solution

- Synoptic reporting and the management of digital data fulfill surgical oncology compliance requirements.
- Data accrual and sharing will enable analysis to support better patient outcomes.

Kaleida Health is the largest healthcare provider in Western New York, serving the area's eight counties with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive healthcare services. More than one million sick or injured patients choose a Kaleida Health facility each year, including its largest healthcare facility – Buffalo General Medical Center/Gates Vascular Institute (BGMC/GVI).

When Kaleida Health started looking at reporting solutions to fulfill their cancer surgery compliance requirements, they evaluated mTuitive Surgery and found that it would meet both their near-term compliance needs and have the future ability to deliver data-driven insights for surgeons.

The use of evidence-based synoptic operative standards is associated with improved patient outcomes, including survival and quality of life. As presented by the Commission on Cancer (CoC), Synoptic Operative Reports (SORs) capture standardized sets of data elements organized as a structured protocol. Because information is easily collected, stored, and retrieved in the SOR, it increases the accuracy of data capture as well as the efficiency of data entry and abstraction, lowering variability and costs.



Kaleida Health

Challenge:

Kaleida Health needed to meet new reporting requirements from the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer, and at the same time set themselves up for the future by providing their surgeons with the benefits of data-driven insights.

Solution:

mTuitive Surgery – a complete EHR-integrated electronic operative reporting solution for structured data capture.

Benefits:

- Strengthens compliance
- Ensures completeness of operative reporting
- Improves quality of operative reporting
- Boosts efficiency
- Completes reports faster than dictation and transcription
- Reduces costs of quality administration
- Enables a better standard of patient care



CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

More than 150 attending surgeons and residents at Kaleida Health are currently using mTuitive Surgery to efficiently complete CoC-compliant operative reports while capturing structured data for downstream use. The customized protocols, developed by mTuitive and validated by Kaleida Health, serve as an extra safety check for patients.

Steven Schwaartzberg, MD, FACS, medical director of surgical program development for Kaleida Health and chairman of the department of surgery for the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo, commented, "We chose the mTuitive Surgery solution for synoptic reporting in response to the mandate from the Commission on Cancer. It boiled down to a decision to make, buy, or be non-compliant. After conversations with IT leadership, Kaleida Health decided to buy the mTuitive Surgery solution, which supported our desire to abstract data from the reporting fields and did not require our IT development team to spend valuable cycles to create a new solution from scratch."

New Compliance Requirements around Synoptic Reporting

Beginning in 2021, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and its Commission on Cancer unveiled new standards for facilities to remain in compliance with CoC accreditation. This new initiative is the Cancer Surgery Standards Program (CSSP), dedicated to improving the surgical quality of care given to cancer patients and educating surgeons and staff on the value and benefit of synoptic reporting.

The new accreditation standards include specific synoptic reporting fields for Standards 5.3 through 5.8, covering breast, melanoma, colon, rectal, and lung surgical procedures. Requirements for compliant Synoptic Operative Reports will continue to increase

across specialties, and forward-thinking surgeons are proactively using synoptic reporting to reap the benefits.

Uncover Important Information in Operative Reports

Yaron Perry, MD, FACS, thoracic surgeon and division chief of thoracic surgery at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo, explained, "Previously, we used verbal dictation for everything – for example, to document all the lymph nodes that were sampled, which vessels were dissected, which section of lung was removed. Essentially, we were telling a narrative story. But, for someone else to benefit from this information, they would have to read through this story line-by-line to find the information they needed."

With synoptic reporting, all the required questions are created in a standardized protocol, similar to a form, for the surgeon to answer via single-select, multi-select, and numerical fields – plus there is room for additional narrative text (when needed). mTuitive works closely with each surgical center to customize the solution to the organization's needs. This means nothing gets missed and the data is standardized. Then, this standardized data can be looked at quantitatively. For instance, you could request a report on aggregate data from all lung cancer surgeries at the hospital to find out how many lymph nodes were taken and how that information correlates to patient outcomes. This level of data abstraction would not be possible with unstructured narrative reports.

mTuitive

For further information...
www.mTuitive.com • +1.508.771.5800



Dr. Perry added, "Medicine is an evolving profession. Every day there are new findings, and we must be up to date with new procedures to best help our patients. Standardized synoptic reporting will mandate that doctors document their surgical procedures more effectively, and I believe it will translate to better outcomes because when data is well documented and in a digital format, it is transferable."

Raising the Bar for Quality of Surgery

Data quality and data integrity are built into mTuitive Surgery which raises the bar for the standard of care. Checks and balances are built into the SOR protocols that may get missed when completing a purely narrative report. This improves the minimum level of care because surgeons need to address each question in their documentation.

For example, if it is not explicitly noted that the surgeon checked the lung function before the operation, you don't know if the test wasn't performed or if the surgeon simply forgot to document it. With mTuitive Surgery, a protocol is created to ensure that each step is documented correctly, ensuring a higher level of quality and standardization.

Dr. Schwartzberg stated, "I see the immense value in the power of synoptic reporting because it's very difficult to pull data out of free text. This was something I first realized with synoptic reporting in pathology reports. Yet, I still see the value of narrative reporting, and I believe you gain the most value when you combine the two."

Why mTuitive?

Although some surgical centers currently take a "do-it-yourself" approach to synoptic reporting compliance with internally developed copy-paste templates and auto-text, this is a stopgap approach that can risk non-compliance. As a better alternative, health-care systems like Kaleida Health rely on mTuitive Surgery, a professional, purpose-built solution that is fully developed and comprehensive. It includes all data elements and responses from comprehensive CSSP synoptic operative reporting templates, including elements required for CoC accreditation. In addition, mTuitive Surgery works with all major EHR systems.

"I see the immense value in the power of synoptic reporting because it's very difficult to pull data out of free text."

***Dr. Steven Schwartzberg
Medical Director of
Surgical Program
Development***

mTuitive Surgery extends the company's two decades of pathology reporting expertise, capturing vital cancer information as structured data. This web-based surgical synoptic solution can integrate with the EHR, work as a standalone system, or integrate with any hospital IT system – including specific workflows for each facility. Healthcare facilities can combine information from pathology and surgical synoptics to create powerful insights to improve patients' treatments and outcomes.

mTuitive



Kaleida Health

CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

With mTuitive Surgery, healthcare organizations can be prepared for Commission on Cancer site visits, avoiding deficiencies or negative marks against the facility's accreditation status. The reports themselves are easy to use and don't burden already busy staff members. By implementing mTuitive Surgery, reporting becomes more efficient and cost-effective because reports are completed faster, more completely, and with better accuracy as compared to the dictation and transcription of narrative reports.

The Promise of Data Sharing

According to The American College of Surgeons (ACS), a significant amount of information is currently locked into narrative text format, making it very difficult to pull from the records. More importantly, the information that goes into the records varies in content, accuracy, and quality – limiting the usefulness of this information. As mTuitive Surgery is standardized across a hospital or health system, that data can be accrued, shared, and analyzed for data insights. Ultimately, it can support clinical care, research, and quality programs.

Dr. Perry explained, "As an academic surgeon, I was looking for a better way to abstract the data from all these operating notes on patients. If this data can be standardized nationwide, I think it will enable a better standard of care for patients because you are not just benefiting from one surgeon's experience, you're benefitting from the best surgical practices nationwide."

Dr. Schwaitzberg added, "As far as being compliant with the standards, we're way above the minimum thresholds with mTuitive Surgery. We are excited about the future benefits of the system including the ability to harvest data, tie it together with pathology synoptic reporting, and garner insights from patient data analytics over time."

Synoptic Operative Reporting holds the promise to improve the quality of care for cancer patients while reducing the burden of physician workflows. In the future, a National Cancer Registry of surgery data could house a universal database of SORs, and eventually integrate them into EHR systems, capturing important data on surgeries and their outcomes at scale, as opposed to a million separate narrative stories.

Kaleida Health is a pioneer that sees the vision of synoptic operative reporting. "mTuitive Surgery is scalable and reusable, and that by far is the biggest benefit," concludes Dr. Perry.

"The bottom line is that we must ensure that our patients receive the best quality care possible. We see this as an amazing opportunity that hopefully will let us screen patient data and analyze that information to suggest the best treatment."

mTuitive

For further information...

www.mTuitive.com • +1.508.771.5800