

Patient Social History

Purpose: To provide important context for a patient's overall health and well-being. The information can give healthcare providers insights into factors that may impact the patient's health, lifestyle, or risk factors.

- 1. **Risk Factors**: Social history can identify lifestyle behaviors such as smoking, alcohol use, drug use, diet, and physical activity, which can affect health and the development of certain conditions like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, or respiratory issues.
- 2. **Environmental Factors**: It can reveal environmental exposures such as occupation, housing conditions, or potential risks like exposure to toxins or infectious diseases, which may impact a patient's health.
- 3. **Mental Health Considerations**: Understanding family dynamics, relationships, or socioeconomic stressors can provide insights into mental health concerns like depression, anxiety, or stress that might affect the patient's physical health.
- 4. **Support Systems**: Information about the patient's family, social support, or living arrangements helps the healthcare provider consider how well the patient might cope with illness, adhere to treatment plans, or recover after surgery or hospitalization.
- 5. **Cultural Factors**: Social history can provide understanding of cultural, religious, or community beliefs that may influence a patient's medical decisions, preferences, or willingness to accept certain treatments or interventions.
- 6. **Preventive Care**: Knowledge about the patient's social background can help providers recommend screenings, vaccines, and other preventive care that may be particularly relevant for their specific situation.
- 7. **Personalizing Care**: Social history helps healthcare providers personalize medical care by considering how a patient's lifestyle or life circumstances may affect treatment plans, recovery, and long-term health outcomes.

Ultimately, social history helps ensure that care is more holistic, patient-centered, and tailored to the individual's unique life context.

Short lists have been set up to assist with documentation in the patient's chart. Incorrect or duplicate documentation **MUST** be marked **Erroneous Entry** before new or updated documentation is completed.

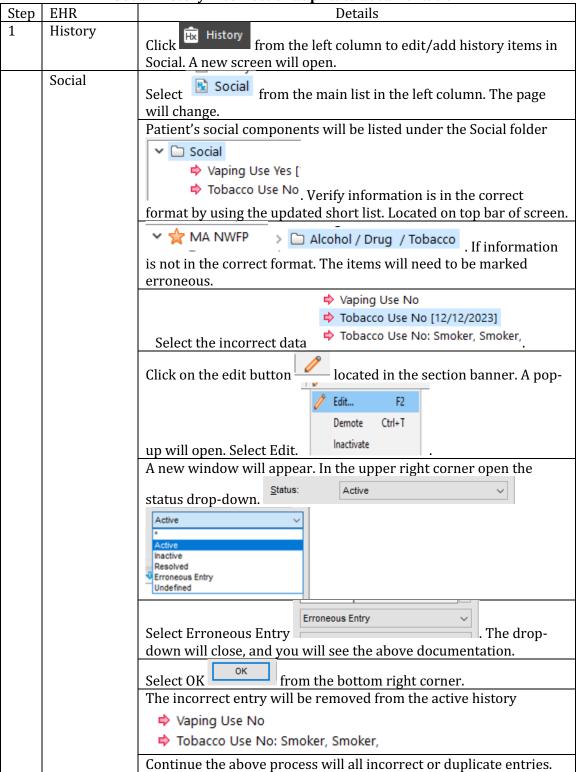


Social history entry or update

Step	EHR section	Details
1.	History	Click from the left column to edit/add history items in Social. A new screen will open.
2.	Social – refer to expectations to identify appropriate components for age of patient	Select Social from the main list in the left column. The page will change.
		Patient's social components will be listed under the Social folder ✓ ☐ Social ➡ Tobacco/E-cig/Vape No ➡ Drug Use No ➡ Alcohol Use No . Verify information is in the correct format by using the updated short list. Located on top bar of screen.
		✓ ★ MA NWFP > ☐ Alcohol / Drug / Tobacco
		Double click each appropriate item to include into note and add Alcohol / Drug / Tobacco
		the popup. To update attributes, Attributes Remove 1/2 - 1 PPD 15 - 20 years highlight item and click the remove button
		Follow the above steps until all age-appropriate items are completed.



Social history incorrect or duplicate documentation



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