

Frontiers™

A perioperative clinical information management solution that lets you focus on the patient

PRE-OP

INTRA-OP

PACU





Frontiers™


DESIGNED BY AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST to improve efficiency, profitability and safety throughout the Pre-Op, Intra-Op and PACU, Frontiers is an intuitive perioperative clinical information management system (PCIMS) that boasts a 100% clinical-acceptance rating among users.


Unlike awkward tabs-based interfaces that hide the record during charting, Frontiers is the only PCIMS with customizable menus and forms-based templates that show the entire record as it will be printed—allowing the clinician to spend less time with the chart, and more time focused on the patient.


Introducing Frontiers

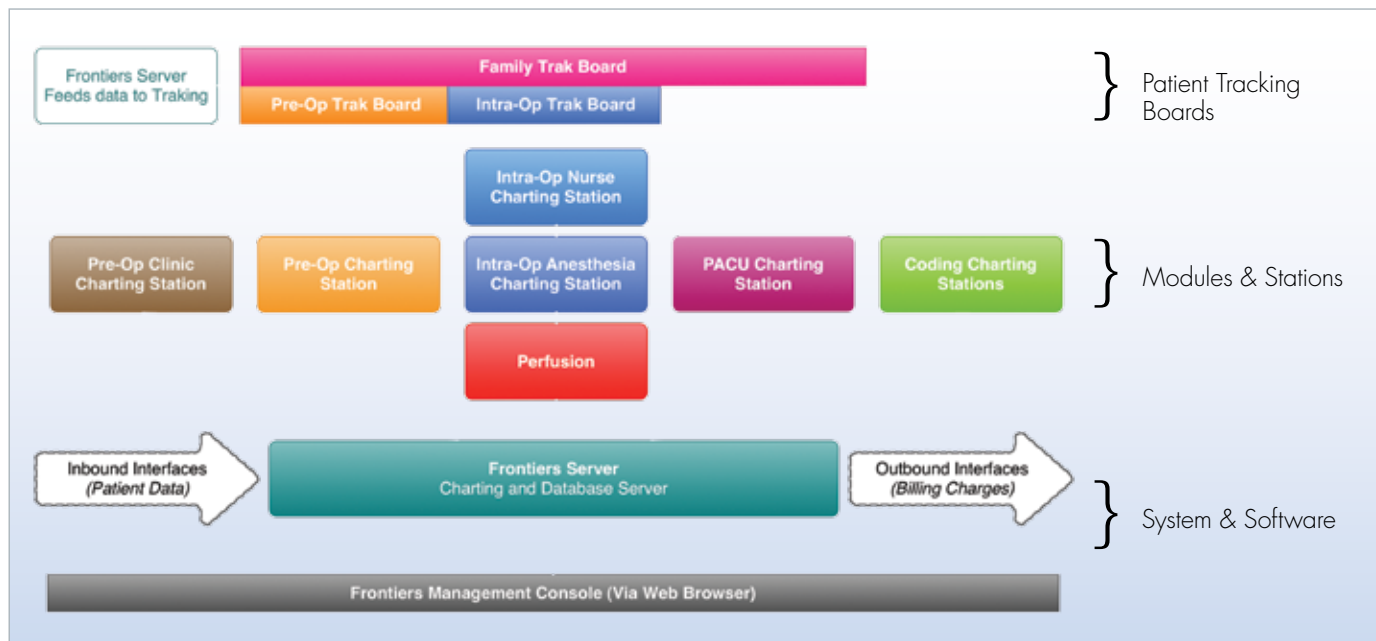
 Frontiers reduces the time needed to create an accurate, data-rich and legible patient record, enabling clinicians to focus more time on procedures and on patient care.

 Frontiers improves clinical workflow and processes by eliminating the duplicity of documentation, providing clinicians easy-to-use WYSIWYG templates that expedite the charting process.

 Frontiers' clinical-forms library has been used to meet JCAHO, CMS and other regulatory and accreditation standards. By reminding clinicians to document this information at the point-of-care, institutions can improve their compliance level and increase reimbursement.

 Frontiers improves charge capture, turnover time and OR efficiency, and increases third-party reimbursement from the capture of additional co-morbidity information that might otherwise be overlooked.

 Frontiers provides an extensive array of clinical, operational and financial reports. This information has been effectively utilized by clinicians and administrators to identify and adopt best practices and streamline the entire perioperative workflow.



Fast, Intuitive & Easy to Use

Intuitive Form-based Design

Unlike cumbersome tab-based documentation systems that hide the complete record during charting, Frontiers is the only PCIMS designed to show the entire record as it will be printed.

Built-in Compliance Reminders

Frontiers was designed to help hospitals transition from retrospective compliance reviews of sample cases to proactive compliance for all cases. Each hospital can guide clinicians' charting with several tools from which to choose:

- Dynamic to-do lists customized for your hospital's compliance initiatives
- Color-coded fields that highlight required entries
- Mandatory form fields which must be completed before a case can be closed

With these tools, hospitals can ensure regulatory and hospital standards are met for every case.

Frontiers Side Car

Frontiers' ergonomically designed charting station makes completing a record easier and faster than handwritten or keyboard approaches.

- Built-in shortcuts for faster entries
- Navigation dial for one-handed charting
- Fingerprint and barcode scanners for simple authentication & data entry



Together, these features allow users to complete 90% of their documentation without typing or writing.

Using Frontiers, hospitals typically achieve a complete ROI payback on their initial investment in less than six months. Beyond the benefits of creating more legible and accurate records, Frontiers also helps increase DRG reimbursement and provides tools to maximize OR efficiency.

Increase DRG Reimbursement

DRG reimbursement depends on providing comprehensive and specific clinical documentation. Unlike systems that support only core documentation requirements, Frontiers prompts clinicians for much more detailed disease state annotations. Helping clinicians correctly record co-morbidity conditions can increase third-party reimbursement.

Key Features

Clinician-Focused Design

Designed by an Anesthesiologist, Frontiers has been refined in hospitals for more than a decade, boasting a 100% clinical-acceptance rating among users.

WYSIWYG Form-based Charting

Frontiers electronic charts look like a version of your hard-copy chart. It lets clinicians see the forms as they will be printed and makes it easier to understand and populate. This familiar, intuitive model minimizes training time and helps prevent mistakes.

Web-Enabled

The case-details page makes it easy to view/print active or previous cases online securely from anywhere in the hospital network.

Open Interfaces

Frontiers is built on an open XML architecture that makes integrating with existing systems (both inbound and outbound) totally seamless. Anything that can be charted in Frontiers can be brought in and sent out via an interface.

Complete Perioperative and Post-Clinical Coverage

Modules & stations are available for the following care units:

Pre-Surgical Testing	Pharmacy
Intra-Op Anesthesia	Materials Coding
Pre-Op Holding	Professional Billing
PACU	

Real-time Billing

New billing feature effortlessly captures each surgery-related charge at the point of care, delivering a legible, itemized and pre-calculated charge to the billing office for enhanced revenue capture and faster processing.

Physiological Transcription Support

New cross-platform support lets clinicians record physiological data from any Windows®-based charting station within the hospital, saving time and creating a more efficient workflow.

Improve Hospital Productivity

Maximize OR Efficiency & Ease Tension of Patient's Family Members

Using PatientTrak and strategically placed LCD displays in the Pre-Op, the OR and the Waiting Room, Frontiers provides a real-time, broadcast that gives the status of each case as it progresses through surgery. These "Big Boards" help minimize room turnover time and other inefficiencies throughout the procedure, while reducing the anxiety of family members who are waiting for their loved one.



Case #	Room	Surgeon	Start Time	End Time	Status	Room #
1001	1001	Dr. Smith	08:00	09:00	In Progress	1001
1002	1002	Dr. Jones	08:15	09:15	Completed	1002
1003	1003	Dr. Brown	08:30	09:30	Waiting	1003
1004	1004	Dr. White	08:45	09:45	In Progress	1004
1005	1005	Dr. Green	09:00	10:00	Completed	1005

- Pre-Op Patient Trak shows patients as they are prepared for surgery in Pre-Op Holding
- Intra-Op Patient Trak shows the procedure status, vital signs, and case information of each patient in every OR
- Family Trak can be configured to show selected information in waiting rooms

Beyond real-time information, Frontiers also can produce numerous reports from the wealth of data it collects about workflow, practice patterns, and procedures. Combined with real-time data, these reports can help revolutionize your OR throughput.

Paper-based records are often inaccurate or incomplete—letting many billable activities slip through the cracks.

Frontiers addresses this challenge with its rules-based logic and prompts, maximizing each clinician's professional billings in three ways:

- Records accurate start/stop times which typically results in more billable time
- Captures charges for additional procedures by documenting every activity at the point of care (for example, insertion of an A-line in Pre-Op)
- Allows anesthesiologists to chart procedure and diagnosis codes for all surgical cases, which decreases rejected claims and increases overall reimbursement

And with Frontiers new real-time billing function, each billable item is captured at the point-of-care, delivering a legible, itemized and pre-calculated charge to the billing office for faster processing.

Create an Efficient Workflow

Frontiers preserves the workflow benefits of paper while delivering on the promise of modern EMRs:

- Accurate, legible, and secure records protect patient's privacy and health while creating a more efficient workflow for clinicians and post-clinical professionals
- Frontiers automatically sends procedure information directly to the physicians' billing office, helping assure that all time and services are recognized
- Point-of-care reminders and automatic reports improve regulatory, operational, fiduciary and compliance reviews, in addition to patient safety
- Tools to increase hospital revenue increase DRG reimbursement and maximize throughput of the pre-op, intra-op and PACU

Key Features continued

Real-time, Point-of-Care Charting

Using a unique, minimal-footprint keyboard designed for on-the-fly entries, clinicians can chart with one hand.

Pharmacy, Billing & Professional Service Stations

Sort, search and review case workflow of professional services, materials and pharmacy without ever having to crack open a case. Station also allows users to do case reviews with the same forms-based WYSIWYG interface clinicians use—speeding and simplifying case reviews while improving charge capture and compliance management.

Migration Support

Frontiers' users now have faster, simpler updates/upgrades, minimizing impact on workflow to enable optimal uptime.

About Frontiers

100% clinical acceptance at each facility

Successfully installed and used at 20 sites

Used by nearly 1,000 clinicians with more than half-a-million cases already charted

Used nationwide at facilities in: Virginia, Washington DC, New York, Massachusetts, Georgia, Nebraska, and California

About Merge Healthcare

Merge Healthcare develops software solutions that automate healthcare data and diagnostic workflow to create a more comprehensive electronic record of the patient experience. Merge products, ranging from standards-based development toolkits to fully integrated clinical applications, have been used by healthcare providers worldwide for over 20 years.

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