

AHLTA Quick Tip: Cleaning up a Patient's Problem List

By Anthony Inae, M.D.

Having access to a current problem list is important for all patients and clinicians. It may even speed up the patient encounter process the next time a patient is seen. But, does your patient's problem list contain a lot of things that should not be there? AHLTA 3.3 provides an easy way for you to access and clean up patient problem list! No more hassle...it's quick and easy! Just follow these steps.

1. Notice the split pane on the bottom of the Diagnosis tab of the Assessment and Plan module. The patient's previous diagnoses are displayed on the left, and the Diagnosis Search results and Template items are displayed on the right.
2. View the patient's previous problems from this screen. Use the double-click to speed up the process of adding previous diagnoses to the note. This makes it faster to add something already on the patient's problem list, and helps eliminate the duplication of diagnoses by selecting one versus searching from scratch.
3. Right click on irrelevant items, then either select Remove (inactivate) or select Mark Problem as "Deleted(Error)". This will clear them off the active problem list. To multi-select, Use the Shift or the CTRL keys. Using this workflow is much faster than manually accessing the Problems Module.
4. Remember, this does not automatically update the "Autocites" section on your current note. To do so, click the "Current Encounter" tab then click the Autocites button to refresh the list in order for the changes to appear on today's note.

