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## Health Department physician honored for research paper on Electronic Health Records

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William Ventres, MD, MA, family physician at Multnomah County Health Department, was the recipient of the best research paper award for 2007 from the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM). The award was presented at their conference in Chicago. The STFM Research Paper Award recognizes the best research paper published by an STFM member in a peer-reviewed journal during the selected year. STFM is an organization representing more than 5,000 teachers of family medicine around the United States.

The research paper, "Physicians, Patients, and the Electronic Health Record: An Ethnographic Analysis," published in the April 2006 issue of [Annals of Family Medicine](http://www.annfammed.org/cgi/reprint/4/2/124), <http://www.annfammed.org/cgi/reprint/4/2/124> was designed to identify the factors that influence how physicians use the Electronic Health Records (EHRs) with patients. It found that the introduction of EHRs into practice influences multiple dimensions of the clinical encounter. According to Ventres, "the results can help clinicians make best use of the EHR to enhance therapeutic relationships with their patients."