

view patient's medications—the user may view all medication orders for this patient.

FIG. 49(f)

open screen—the user is given three option in the open screen function:

write message—the user may write a message pertaining to this patient; POETRY processes this action immediately and refreshes the patient profile screen.

write annotation—the user selects the medication record to write an annotation; POETRY processes this action immediately and refreshes the patient profile screen.

write orders—the user may write a medication order(s) which will transmit immediately to the hospital pharmacy system; POETRY refreshes the patient profile screen.

FIG. 49(g)

In the Outpatient/Clinic module, the physician's outpatient are displayed on the patient selection screen. The physician may select a patient from his or her list or may search for a patient by name, identification number, or medical folder number.

A list of qualifying patients is displayed. The list is refined as more specific search criteria (e.g., more letters of the patient's name or more numbers of the patient's identification number) is entered into the system.

The selected patient's profile screen is displayed, showing the patient's prescriptions, messages and annotations.

FIG. 49(h)

A patient's profile screen provides the user with different functions:

erase messages—the user may read any patient-specific messages and then erase the message(s); POETRY processes this action immediately and refreshes the patient profile screen.

specify allergies—the user may view the patient's allergies, height and weight, age and diagnosis and may add to, revise or delete the patients' allergies or height and weight or diagnosis; these actions will list in the present actions list and may be processed at anytime before another patient is selected or before the user signs off the system.

FIG. 49(i)

enter new prescriptions—the user may enter a new prescription completely (medication and patient instructions) or may view the drug formulary which displays drug availability, strengths and costs for the medication selected; the user is also given the ability to access a drug information database; the user completes the prescription after selecting the medication from the formulary; new prescriptions are listed in the present actions list and may be processed at anytime before another patient is selected or before the user signs off the system.

FIG. 49(j)

process present actions—POETRY processes all actions in the present actions list and checks for:

recognition of medication ordered, dose, route, frequency and duration

allergies and adverse drug reactions

formulary vs. non-formulary drug items

prescribing restrictions

dosage availability

drug interactions

maximum dosage recommended

dose frequency

drug use evaluation

POETRY lists all drug interactions and other cautions.

The user may request for more information regarding the drug interactions and other cautions.

If the user chooses to continue with the same patient, the initial patient profile screen is displayed.

The user may continue with a new patient or the user may logoff.

FIG. 49(k)

discontinue prescription—the user may discontinue an active prescription and the action is listed in the present actions list and may be processed at anytime before another patient is selected or before the user signs off the system.

edit prescription—the user may edit an active prescription and the action is listed in the present actions list and may be processed at anytime before another patient is selected or before the user signs off the system.

view patient's prescriptions—the user may view all active and inactive prescriptions for this patient.

FIG. 49(l)

open screen—the user is given three option in the open screen function:

write message—the user may write a message pertaining to this patient; POETRY processes this action immediately and refreshes the patient profile screen.

write annotation—the user selects the prescription record to write an annotation; POETRY processes this action immediately and refreshes the patient profile screen.

write prescription—the user may write a prescription(s) which will transmit immediately to the retail or outpatient/clinic pharmacy; POETRY refreshes the patient profile screen.

Those skilled in the art can appreciate that other advantages can be obtained from the use of this invention and modifications can be made without departing from the true spirit of the invention after studying the specifications, drawings and following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A system for prescribing medication for a patient, said system comprising:

means for permitting a user to identify said patient;

database containing health and medication information regarding said patient;

means for automatically accessing said database and displaying to said user a list of all of the currently prescribed medications for said patient;

means for accepting and processing information regarding said medication prescriptions for said patient from the user including interpreter and reformatter means for processing said information received in a random sequence, wherein said information is received in a random sequence, and wherein said information includes at least one medication identifier and information selected from the group consisting of: recognition of medication ordered, recognition of medication dosage, recognition of medication route, recognition of medication frequency, recognition of medication duration, recognition of medication quantity, formulary drug items, non-formulary drug items, restrictions on prescriptions, dosage availability, maximum dosage recommended for said patient, dosage frequency, and drug use evaluations; and

means for communicating said medication prescription to a pharmacy.