



**Donald W. Rucker, MD**  
**Vice President and Chief Medical Officer**  
**Siemens Medical Solutions USA**

Dr. Don Rucker serves as the physician leader of the Siemens USA Sales and Marketing group where he helps provide the clinical direction for Siemens information technology (IT) and “Med meets IT” initiatives. Dr. Rucker works to achieve Siemens’ strategy to meld medical equipment with IT to create greater efficiencies across healthcare, making accurate information readily accessible, whenever and wherever it’s needed to support decision-making at the point of care.

Dr. Rucker’s involvement in transforming healthcare dates back to his training as a medical student at the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied medical decision-making. Finishing his residency in General Internal Medicine at the University of California in San Diego, Dr. Rucker realized that true leadership in changing healthcare in America would come from having a deep understanding of the newly emerging tools in clinical computing and how to bring these tools to practices while using a business discipline. Dr. Rucker obtained both graduate medical computer and business training on a full-time basis when he simultaneously started a master’s degree program in medical computer science and an MBA program at Stanford in 1984. While a student in Stanford’s Artificial Intelligence Knowledge Systems Lab, Dr. Rucker did his master’s thesis project on the use of artificial intelligence programming tools to represent disease over time.

After graduating with an MS and MBA, Dr. Rucker worked for Clinical Information Advantages Inc. (CIAI) where he was a co-developer of the first Windows-based Electronic Medical Record (EMR) in the world. CIAI pioneered complex, yet easy-to-use, structured templates that, 15 years later, are still considered world-class. Dr. Rucker kept up his clinical skills by working as an emergency medicine physician at Boston’s Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and directed the walk-in clinic and travel medicine program.

While at Beth Israel Deaconess, Dr. Rucker was a member of the Harvard Medical School faculty where he was a researcher on a number of quality-of-care studies in emergency medical services, including being the lead author on the largest academic study on ambulance use.

Dr. Rucker joined Shared Medical Systems in 2000 as vice president and chief medical officer, and continued in these roles after Siemens acquired SMS shortly thereafter. At Siemens, Dr. Rucker’s main goal is to ensure product ease and speed-of-use for physicians. He brings formal computer science knowledge of object-oriented programming, speech recognition, interface design, statistics, clinical decision support and artificial intelligence to the product-design process. Dr. Rucker led the redesign of Siemens’ flagship INVISION product to provide CPOE (computerized physician order entry) support. The capabilities of this design were recognized when the very first installation of this CPOE at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital and Medical Center was awarded the 2003 Nicholas E. Davies for the best hospital computer system in the US.

Improving patient care has always been a passion for Dr. Rucker and he actively practices emergency medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Presbyterian Medical Center, providing care for at-risk inner-city patients. Dr. Rucker also holds an AB in chemistry *magna cum laude* from Harvard and is board certified in both internal medicine and emergency medicine.