What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a user with the ability to collect and manage personal health records, the method comprising:

receiving over a network, monitoring data from a patient monitoring device associated with the user;

generating a personal health record from the monitoring data;

storing the personal health record in a computer readable storage medium at a server;

providing access to the personal health record to the user over the internet through a user account associated with the user;

providing a user interface associated with the user account allowing the user to selectively provide access to the personal health record to a health care provider.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the patient monitoring device is in operative communication with a medical device gateway.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the personal health record is stored within a folder associated with the user account.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the user account having an account identifier and a primary password associated therewith.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the folder is made available to a health care provider accessing the user account through a secondary password to the user account.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the secondary password is an emergency password.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the folder is a telemedicine folder.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising alerting the user of the presence of the personal health record.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the monitoring data comprises audio data.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the monitoring data comprises video data.

11. A method for providing a user with the ability to collect and manage personal health records, the method comprising:

receiving over a network, monitoring data from a health monitoring device associated with the user;

generating a personal health record from the monitoring data;

storing the personal health record in a computer readable storage medium at a server;

providing access to the personal health record to the user over the internet through a user account associated with the user;

providing a web-based user interface associated with the user account wherein the web-based user interface associated with the user account provides for (a) accessing the personal health record, (b) receiving additional health records into the user account from health care providers associated with the user, (c) accessing the additional health records received into the user account from the health care providers associated with the user, and (d) sending one or more of the personal health record and the additional health records to one of the health care providers.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the health monitoring device is in operative communication with a medical device gateway.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the personal health record is stored within a folder associated with the user account.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the user account having an account identifier and a primary password associated therewith.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the folder is made available to a health care provider accessing the user account through a secondary password to the user account.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the secondary password is an emergency password.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the folder is a telemedicine folder.

18. The method of claim 11 further comprising alerting the user of the presence of the personal health record.

19. The method of claim 11 wherein the monitoring data comprises audio data.

20. The method of claim 11 wherein the monitoring data comprises video data.

CLAIMS

1. A method for providing a patient with the ability to collect and manage personal health records, the method comprising:

receiving over a network, monitoring data from a patient monitoring device associated with the patient, wherein the monitoring data comprises audio or video data from a telemedicine session between the patient and a health care provider;

generating a personal health record from the monitoring data;

storing the personal health record in a computer readable storage medium at a server;

providing access to the personal health record to the patient over the internet through a user account associated with the patient;

providing a user interface associated with the user account allowing the patient to selectively provide access to the personal health record to the health care provider.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the patient monitoring device is in wireless communication with a medical device gateway.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the personal health record is stored within a folder associated with the user account.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the user account having an account identifier and a primary password associated therewith.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the folder is made available to a health care provider accessing the user account through a secondary password to the user account, the secondary password is separate and different from the primary password associated with the user account.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the secondary password is an emergency password.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the folder is a telemedicine folder.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising alerting the patient of the presence of the personal health record.

9. A method for providing a patient with the ability to collect and manage personal health records, the method comprising:

receiving over a network, monitoring data from a health monitoring device associated with the patient;

generating a personal health record from the monitoring data wherein the monitoring data comprises audio or video data from a telemedicine session between the patient and a health care provider;

storing the personal health record in a computer readable storage medium at a server;

providing access to the personal health record to the patient over the internet through a user account associated with the patient;

providing a web-based user interface associated with the user account wherein the web-based user interface associated with the user account provides for (a) accessing the personal health record, (b) receiving additional health records into the user account from health care providers associated with the patient , (c) accessing the additional health records received into the user account from the health care providers associated with the patient, and (d) sending one or more of the personal health record and the additional health records to one of the health care providers.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the health monitoring device is in operative communication with a medical device gateway.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the personal health record is stored within a folder associated with the user account.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the user account having an account identifier and a primary password associated therewith.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the folder is made available to a health care provider accessing the user account through a secondary password to the user account.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the secondary password is an emergency password.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the folder is a telemedicine folder.

16. The method of claim 9 further comprising alerting the patient of the presence of the personal health record.