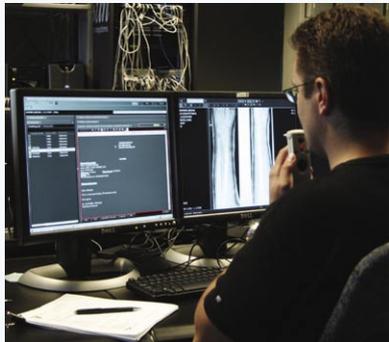


# Vendor News

## Intuitive Access to Disparate Clinical Information

Physicians and health-care consumers are demanding better ways to access information, share results and facilitate education and communication. A breakdown at any point results in time delays, medical errors and lack of compliance. With the



adoption of the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) in Canada, it is required that all communications containing protected health information be secure. Agfa HealthCare's Clinical Dashboard answers this need by extending a robust e-messaging framework to provide timely access and exchange of confidential images and information – inside and outside the hospital.

Having access to partial or inaccurate patient information can result in compromised decisions and unnecessary costs. For Clinical Dashboard users, accessing information is as simple as logging on once, selecting a patient and having data automatically available. This dramatically increases physician satisfaction in an environment that is easy to learn, deploy and customize (with a healthy return on investment.) Agfa HealthCare's IMPAX Clinical Dashboard enhances clinical and operational workflows, creates a virtual electronic patient record and streamlines access to patient data – all while extending a comprehensive security audit management platform that identifies and tracks all usage and transactions of patient information. Source: <http://www.agfa.com/canada/en/>

## SAS Canada Expands Healthcare Expertise in the West

SAS Canada announced that it is partnering with Brian Shorter, a healthcare consultant based in British Columbia, to further help local healthcare organizations and government departments leverage business intelligence and predictive analytics software to improve the delivery of healthcare services and operational effectiveness. This partnership, with the former chief information officer for the Vancouver Island Health Authority, illustrates SAS's long-term commitment to the Canadian healthcare industry. SAS's increased focus on healthcare in Canada builds upon the growing momentum in the industry to implement data management and analytic solutions to, among other things, apply predictive modelling techniques to identify high-risk patients, proactively intervene and optimize care across populations and conduct clinical research and outcomes analysis to optimize clinical care. Source: <http://www.sas.com/>

## CHCA Launches Initiative to Advance the Information Technology Agenda in Home Care

The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) has entered into a partnership with Canada Health Infoway to lead a national project on technology in home care. The project – Integration through Information Communication Technology in Home Care in Canada – will begin immediately and will result in a better understanding of the potential of and readiness for information communication technology in the home care sector across Canada.

The project will support the CHCA's goal of building a national knowledge base on technology in the home and community sectors and exploring challenges and opportunities for current and future applications. Key components of the project include surveying home care experts across Canada, hosting a pan-Canadian roundtable and sharing knowledge at a special workshop at the CHCA's Home Care Summit in December. Source: <http://www.infoway-inforoute.ca>

## Most Wired Hospitals Wield Tools of Technology

The United States' 100 Most Wired hospitals show better outcomes in four key areas: mortality rates, patient safety measures from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, core measures from Hospital Compare and average length of stay. Based on an analysis of the ninth annual Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking Study results, hospitals are embracing technology as a key tool for healthcare quality improvements.

The Most Wired Survey is conducted annually by Hospitals & Health Networks magazine, which uses the results to name the 100 Most Wired hospitals and health systems. It focuses on how US hospitals use information technologies for quality, customer service, public health and safety, business processes and workforce issues. Source: <http://www.aha.org>

## Newest Version of Centricity Enterprise Provides Enhanced Workflow Tools for Clinicians

GE Healthcare released the latest version of Centricity Enterprise, an intelligent and integrated software suite of clinical and financial applications that is designed to improve patient care and increase collaboration between clinicians – providing a better overall healthcare environment. Centricity Enterprise offers comprehensive capabilities that help caregivers provide safer care for patients and clinical excellence throughout their healthcare organization. The software utilizes the user-friendly Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE), which screens every medication order for potential errors and offers point-of-care bar coding for safer medication administration. Organizations using Centricity Enterprise CPOE have reported reductions in potential adverse drug events by up to 75%.

The software provides caregivers with real-time access to a patient's electronic records, allowing them to more closely

monitor changing health conditions, document assessments more quickly and communicate seamlessly with all care providers. Time that caregivers previously spent on paperwork can now be focused on treating patients. Source: <http://pressroom.gehealthcare.com>

### Technology to Improve Stroke Care to Remote Areas

Albertans living in rural and remote areas will have better access to stroke diagnosis and treatment services through an investment of close to \$1.1 million from Canada Health Infoway in the province-wide network that links stroke specialists and patients. The Telestroke program will provide funding to participating health regions to expand the use of videoconferencing technology and other specialized equipment to enable direct medical consultation without the need to have the health professional and patient in the same place. Source: <http://www.infoway-inforoute.ca>

### Enterprise eHealth Solutions Drive Integrated Community and Patient Care Initiatives

MEDSEEK, a provider of Enterprise eHealth solutions that connect information and people for better patient care and community advocacy, announced 28 new software and consulting projects with new and existing hospital customers during the first six months of 2007. These hospital organi-

zations have selected the company's advanced web portals, along with strategic consulting and marketing services, to build and foster an enhanced experience with its key constituents to improve community relations, revenue and patient throughput and clinical decision-making.

Additionally, MEDSEEK has been recognized as one of the Top 100 Healthcare IT Companies by Healthcare Informatics. Source: <http://www.medseek.com/>

### Doc e-Records Could Hit 30% by 2011

Almost 18% of US physicians had an electronic medical record (EMR) system in 2006, and this could rise to 30% by 2011, says a new poll. However, the survey released by the Millennium Research Group also found that most non-hospital-affiliated small practices, which represented nearly 70% of all office-based doctors in 2006, will find it difficult to afford the high-technology revamp and to justify the disruption that the implementation of EMRs will cause the practice. This will be the case despite government efforts to help small practices afford to go electronic, such as plans allowing hospitals to assist their affiliated doctors by donating an EMR system or subsidizing the cost of software. However, such programs will still help drive growth, the survey suggested. Source: <http://www.healthcareitnews.com>

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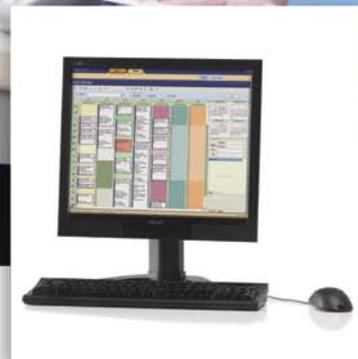
Hamilton Health Sciences



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