

Volume 14, 01 November 2014

Publisher: Igitur publishing

URL: <http://www.ijic.org>

Cite this as: Int J Integr Care 2014; Inter Digital Health Suppl; [URN:NBN:NL:UI:10-1-116564](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:nl:ui:10-1-116564)

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Conference Abstract

Innovation in Digital Healthcare

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Abstract

Introduction: In 2010, St Helens & Knowsley Health Informatics Service, (StHK HIS), recognised the need to deliver care digitally, using technology as the enabler, with improved, safer patient care at the heart of the Informatics strategy, eliminating the risks associated with paper and manual processes.

Aims And Objectives: Starting with the deployment of an electronic document management system, (eDMS), the aim was to eliminate the manual process of delivering over 1,200 paper patient records across the Trust's sites everyday – neither efficient nor safe.

The introduction of eDMS centred on strong emerging evidence showing that using electronic records to provide joined up services delivered improved and cost-effective care.

For example, doctors working in outpatient clinics have immediate access to a patient's record, doctors working in Accident & Emergency would access the electronic records of a patient immediately on arrival.

Planning showed that digitising the patient record meant it could be integrated with social care and other information – creating a multi-disciplinary body of data focused and tailored to each patient personal and individual needs.

Results: This project required an initial investment of £1.2m and will save over £3.2m over five years. This includes a reduction in time spent manually searching and delivering records, paper costs, and duplication of work. Closing the paper records library after 2014 will save a recurring £1.4m per year.

This technology was further developed into a unique solution for GPs, digitising Lloyd George envelope contents, creating much needed space within practice premises, critical for GPs as they strive to offer better access to more services to their local population.

This technology enables GP staff to become more efficient, focusing on patient services, as well as giving GPs instant access to historical patient information.

Since then, StHK have introduced further digital innovations with:

- ADT System – the first step in the patient workflow

- Electronic Order Communications – Real-time tracking of orders and visibility of results.
- Bed management system – Live patient tracking, including location and status, supporting flow of information across organisations.
- eVTE – the VTE assessment process with dashboards to monitor outstanding assessments.
- eDischarge – efficient and safer handover of care and interoperability between acute and primary care.
- Single Sign-On – giving clinicians and GPs faster and secure access to digital systems and electronic patient data
- Mersey Burns App – award winning unique App – saving lives of patients with major burns injuries
- Mersey Micro App – A unique app with interactive calculators to assist clinicians in the dosing of antimicrobials.

Our digitisation strategy continues. In the coming financial year, across the local health economy, the following technology will be:-

- eMEWS – patient deterioration indicators in real time, allowing urgent action to be taken faster
- Theatres System – plans and manages theatre resource based on patient demand
- ePrescribing – consolidates patient drug history and reduces medication errors
- Clinical Patient Portal – wraps all patient systems into one consolidated view

Conclusion: By working towards a digitisation strategy, we have delivered more efficient and safer patient care across the local health economy, and time efficiencies and financial savings in every area of deployment.

Keywords

innovation; digital; interoperability; safe; efficient

PowerPoint presentation:

https://www.conftool.pro/digital-health-care-2014/index.php?page=adminPapersDetails&path=adminPapers&form_id=142
