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eConnects

Summer 2009

Physician eHealth Strategy

The **Physician eHealth Strategy** is nearing completion and the LHIN's interest has been very well received by physicians across the LHIN and by OntarioMD. OntarioMD is a subsidiary of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) who receives funding from eHealth Ontario. Their principal mandate is to guide and support physicians who qualify for funding in the process of adopting EMRs into their clinical practice.

This report provides advice on areas of focus to increase adoption of eHealth solutions by physicians in MH LHIN. Currently MH LHIN has the lowest EMR adoption rate in the province. There are five key areas of focus for the LHIN over the next 3 years within the context of a strategic relationship with OntarioMD:

- Governance and physician engagement
- Strategic EMR solutions that will enable the LHINs' eHealth strategies
- Ongoing EMR support for physicians
- Integration with external data sources
- Provider Portal

The LHIN eHealth office is working very closely with OntarioMD to collaboratively develop plans to expand EMR adoption in primary care practices across the LHIN over the next 3 years. OntarioMD is dedicating resources to work with physicians in MH LHIN with the guidance and oversight of the LHIN eHealth Office. A new program for funding physicians for EMRs will be finalized in June 2009 with a formal public announcement in the summer.



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LHIN Privacy Committee Priorities

In early 2009, a new LHIN Privacy Committee was initiated to provide strategic advice and direction on LHIN privacy issues. It will work to provide direction and oversee the implementation of privacy requirements and solutions in support of the LHIN's eHealth Strategy. This Committee has representatives from all sectors. Members are still being sought to represent Long Term Care and Primary Care!

The Privacy Committee has identified four priorities over the next year:

- staff privacy training program for all health service providers in the LHIN;
- consistent consent management policies and practices across the LHIN;
- common approach for "locking or sealing" records when a patient requests that their information *not be* shared; and
- a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) template.

Community Services Provider (CSP) Portal Project

A new CSP Portal will be launched in Fall 2009 to provide authorized community service providers in Central West and Mississauga Halton LHINs with a secure, web accessible workspace. Portal features will make it easier for community based providers to share information and collaborate in the provision of healthcare services to clients. Community providers with internet connectivity will be able to easily access resources and securely send and share information with other participating organizations and providers.

A CSP Portal User Group, representing community agencies across both LHINs and the respective Community Care Access Centres (CCACs), is providing the project team with requirements and advice on scope, usability and support for the CSP Portal. In September there will be more information about eligibility, how to register as a user, privacy and security considerations and training about the new CSP Portal capabilities.

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Topics already discussed include Project Portfolio Management and Change Management. Meetings rotate around the LHIN with hosts given opportunity to showcase their projects and facilities. It is hoped that the PM Forum becomes an excellent resource for project management best practice.



The right projects, done the right way, with the right people.

We welcome your feedback, comments and/or questions. Please feel free to email us at econnects@lhins.on.ca.



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