

## What's new?

- Minister announces the successful vendor at media launch at the Children's Hospital Westmead
- **Health e link** – EHR\*Net gets a new name
- Tender process completed, vendor announced for the Implementation planning study
- Pilot sites in the midst of the implementation planning study – due for completion 6 August 2004.

## Minister launches for healthy patient records

At a media conference held at the Children's Hospital Westmead on Sunday the 16th May 2004 Minister for Health Morris lemma announced the successful vendor to undertake planning for the new NSW electronic health record system. The first phase of this project is to be rolled out in greater Western Sydney and the Hunter regions, and then all area health services in NSW. The NSW Government has committed \$19.4 million to the Electronic Health Record.

Mr lemma said the Care Junction Consortium had been selected to work with NSW Health to deliver an electronic health record system by August 2005.

'The system known as **health e link**, will improve the coordination of health care delivery by giving health professionals a single point of access to view clinical information about a patient,' Mr lemma said.

'Currently medical records are stored in separate systems across hospitals, emergency departments, GPs, community health and outpatient clinics, diagnostic units and specialist's rooms. This new system will give doctors and health care workers the key information they need for patient care, and gives patients an ability to view and add to their records on-line and become more involved in the management of their health care.

The first phase of **health e link** implementation is planned for the greater Western Sydney and Hunter area health services.

Mr lemma said there would be significant benefits from the new system especially for patients with chronic disease, such as diabetes and cancer – patients who see a range of different health care workers from many types of health services.

'The effective coordination of care and the secure sharing of information is essential for the best management of chronic and complex medical conditions.

'In a complex health system, care is often not delivered by a single clinician. It is more likely to involve the family GP, hospital and community health and emergency department specialists who are based in different locations.



Minister Morris lemma and Dr Ralph Hanson launch **health e link** at the Childrens Hospital Westmead

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'The new system promises to bring all this information together in one site, at the point of care, so that all treating clinicians have access to up to date patient information simultaneously.

'Parents of sick children need to feel confident that informed decisions about their child's treatment are being made in the context of the care they have already received. The new **health e link** will bridge any existing information gap to improve continuity of care.

Mr lemma said **health e link** would ensure better decision-making on the care of patients with a focus on supporting improved quality of care and patient safety. The system will also allow consumers to see what information is held in their medical records and take a more active role in the management of their own health.

'The increasing complexity of health care delivery, increasing specialisation of the medical workforce and the development of new models of care has increased the need for health care workers across different health services to work together as a team in the treatment of many conditions,' Mr lemma said.

Mr lemma confirmed **health e link** has in-built security systems to ensure patient privacy and confidentiality. Information will be password protected and each patient will have a unique patient number.

The NSW **health e link** project is also a trial site for the national electronic health record system, HealthConnect, along with Tasmania, Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

## Care Junction Consortium to undertake an implementation planning study for the NSW EHR\*Net tender

As announced by Minister lemma the Care Junction Consortium has been chosen to undertake an Implementation Planning study (IPS) for the **health e link** pilot project to take place in the Hunter and Greater West.

The Consortium comprises leading global solutions company, LogicaCMG in partnership with Orion Systems International and HealthLink Limited.

Colin Holgate, CEO, LogicaCMG Australia said, 'Our global Healthcare domain expertise in managing complex database solutions gives us the unique ability to successfully deliver the **health e link** solution. By partnering with NSW Health we look forward to creating an electronic records system that will meet the demands of Australia's most populous State.'

As the prime contractor LogicaCMG will deliver programme management, implementation, security and systems integration. They will also support Orion's web based **health e link** solution and HealthLink's secure messaging service providing data transfer facilities for GPs.

CHIN and CDMS will enable the core components of **health e link**, namely business and technical architecture, useability, security and consent models, to be evaluated and tested.

LogicaCMG has extensive global Healthcare experience including the University College London Hospital in the UK, with the \$160 million 'Hospital of the future' project, as well as developing and implementing a pharmaceutical solution within NSW Health and building the Electronic Client Referral pilot for the NSW Human Service agencies.

## On the national EHR front...

A number of related initiatives are under way across Australia as part of the HealthConnect program (the National EHR strategy).

The National HealthConnect office has two discussion documents for which they are seeking comments, the draft report of the Clinical Information Project and the Draft Health connect Architecture. Have your say, the documents can be accessed on the Health Connect website, which you can access via the NSW EHR website at: [www.health.nsw.gov.au/im/ibs/ehr/](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/im/ibs/ehr/)

## Some background about the Care Junction Consortium members

### About LogicaCMG

LogicaCMG is a major international force in IT services and wireless telecoms. It provides management and IT consultancy, systems integration and outsourcing services to clients across diverse markets including telecoms, financial services, energy and utilities, industry, distribution and transport and the public sector. Formed in December 2002, through the merger of Logica and CMG, the company employs around 21,000 staff in offices across 34 countries and has nearly 40 years of experience in IT services. Headquartered in Europe, LogicaCMG is listed on both the London and Amsterdam stock exchanges (LSE: LOG; AEX: LOG). More information is available from [www.logicacmg.com](http://www.logicacmg.com).

### About Orion Systems

Orion Systems International is a world leader in health care data integration and messaging with over 1,000 health care customers in 20 countries. Orion has many successful EHR implementations in both Australia and internationally including Tasmania HealthConnect, Peninsula Health (Victoria), Capital Health (Canada), Walsall NHS Trust (United Kingdom), Counties Manukau District Health Board (New Zealand), the New Zealand Ministry of Health and many others.

### About HealthLink

HealthLink acts as an integration connectivity provider specifically for health data for over 95 percent of GPs in New Zealand and over 2,000 public and private health organizations in Australia, including 95 percent of the GPs in WA. HealthLink is Australasia's largest health information network providing a fully integrated independent and secure messaging service for hospitals, GPs, laboratories, radiology and other providers. Over 1,700 general practices in Australia using a variety of different practice management systems, use the:

### Moving ahead and getting involved

With Care Junction on board the project will now move quickly into the Implementation Planning Study (IPS). During the IPS Care Junction will confirm the scope and project plan for the pilot ahead. It is important that Care Junction and the project team liaise with the pilot sites during this stage to ensure that the project plan for implementation is firmly based on accurate knowledge of the participating sites. To achieve this Care Junction will base teams in each of the pilot sites and conduct consultations with key stakeholder groups over a period of eight weeks commencing on the 31 May 2004.

In each site we are currently establishing a communication structure to ensure distribution of information as quickly as possible. In the interim if you want to be included in these networks, the consultation process or know more about the **health e link** project please don't hesitate to call one of the team at the Department of Health (our details are provided below). Or perhaps you could speak with one of your representatives on the Chronic Disease Management or Child Health Network Steering Committees.

In the future these committees will be brought together to build a stronger more cohesive development across the two pilot sites. Remember the CHIN and CDMS pilots are implementations of the same system.

### Your health e link representatives are:

Name	Position	Area
Bill Vargas	IT Services Manager	CHW
Daniel Lin	Director Medical Education	CHW
Ralph Hanson	Acting CIO NSW Health	NSW Health
Robert Moore	Project Implementation Office	Health Connect
Steve Nerlich	Health Connect Project Office	Health Connect
Robert Lazzarini	Government Liaison Manager	Pharmacy Guild
Denis Nosworthy	Area Director Information Services	SWSAHS
Karolyn Vaughan	CNC Child Health	WAHS
Robert O'Donohue	Clinical Information Project Officer	WAHS
John Haswell	Divisional Manager DDB	WSAHS
Chris Golding	Business Analyst	WSAHS
Louise Cowper	A/Director of Community and and Allied Health Community Health Administration Blacktown	WSAHS
Michael Fasher	President	WSDGP
Frank Cordingley	Director, Corporate Services, Hunter Area Health Services	Hunter Health
Dr David Doolan	Director, Clinical Services, GNS	Hunter Health
Dr Paul Douglas	Director, Health Services Planning, Hunter Health	Hunter Health
Helen Dowling	Director, Pharmacy Services, John Hunter Hospital	Hunter Health
Prof Peter Fletcher	Director, Cardiology, John Hunter Hospital	Hunter Health
Dr Malcolm Ireland	General Practitioner	Hunter Health
Warren Laurence	Director, Information Services and Telecommunications	Hunter Health
David Rhodes	Director, Allied Health Services	Hunter Health
Ian Schumacher	Manager, Clinical Systems Implementation	Hunter Health
Geoff Spitzkowski	Consumer Representative	

## Health e link – EHR\*Net gets a new name

As announced by Minister Iemma the NSW Electronic Health Record Project will now be known as **health e link**. Over the past two years the name EHR\*Net has come under considerable discussion. The general opinion has been that the name did not immediately convey what the project was trying to achieve and the use of EHR in the name has caused an ongoing headache with spell check function on our computers converting EHR to HER (you may have noticed this). EKH Branding House was engaged to look at the naming of the EHR\*Net project. The team from EKH came up with some initial name suggestions that were taken out to consumer focus groups run by OWL Research and Marketing. **Health e link** emerged from these focus groups as the name with the broadest support.

This project has been reliant on the goodwill and contributions of a number of organisations including the pilot site Area Health Services, GP Divisions, Perinatal Services, the Pharmacy Guild of NSW and consumers who have participated in our consultation sessions. We are indebted to these organisations for supporting the attendance of their representatives at steering committee meetings, workshops and consultations generally. Special mention must be made to the individual members of the Tender Evaluation team who have impressed the EHR team with their commitment, good humour and professionalism during the long hours they spent evaluating the tender responses. This process has required a sustained commitment over many months, involved extensive reading and revision of tender documents and seen many weekends and late nights taken over by Evaluation tasks. From the team here at the Department of Health – THANKS!!!!!!

### *A Thankyou to the EHR\*Net Tender Evaluation Team*



*Ralph Hanson, Robyn Cook, Peter Williams, Chris Golding, Greg Jackson, Joanna Kelly, George Bearham, Robert ODonohue, Karolyn Vaughan, Warren Laurence, Ken Davidson, Kathy Smith, Chris Taplin, Bob Lazzarini, Dr Malcolm Ireland, Dr David Doolan, Bill Vargas, Dr Craig Barnett, Angela Askidis. Missing from picture Lara McIntyre, Rob Moore and Rebecca Reid.*



### **NSW Health project team contact details**

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