

Charles H Best Diabetes Centre Selects Healthphone

Healthphone has signed a contract with the Charles H Best Diabetes Centre, a unique community-based Centre for children, youth and adults with Type I Diabetes, for the TELUS Community Care Management Solution (CCMS). CCMS is a full electronic health record and patient management system which makes patient data available to community care providers at the point of care.

"Charles H. Best Centre is a community-based and pioneering organization that meets a growing demand in the Durham region," says Paula Hucko, Vice President of Healthphone in Canada. "By using our software, the Centre will be able to augment the already progressive work they do, and facilitate chronic disease management across the continuum of care."

Healthphone (www.healthphonesolutions.com) develops health industry solutions that use every-day Microsoft technology to empower people with relevant health information at the point of care. Healthphone is Microsoft's Global Lead Solution Partner for long term condition management. Headquartered in Seattle, Healthphone has offices in Australia, Canada and Singapore, with a development center in New Zealand. It has an exclusive agreement with TELUS whereby TELUS distributes Healthphone software in Canada and hosts and manages the application with Healthphone implementing the CCMS solution.

"Our Centre's staff includes Registered Nurses, Dietician Educators and a Counsellor, all specialized in Type 1 Diabetes and available to our patients and families 24/7 for proactive assistance with day-to-day management issues and crisis prevention," says Marlene Grass, RN, Executive Director and Founder of the Centre, "Implementing CCMS will help us to automate our operation, streamline efficiencies and communication between staff, physicians and our families. Our work takes us into the homes and schools of our patients and we can connect with them via pager while we are off-site. Therefore the ability to access crucial information from the Centre will assist us greatly in providing excellent care and management. Ultimately, we hope to develop a portal for our patients to access their personal health record and assist in self-monitoring."

CCMS is designed specifically for community, home care and long term care providers and any health care organization whose work force is highly mobile. Health providers use a mobile device at the point of care such as a laptop or PDA to view and update patient records, access test results and instantly share information with other health providers. With secure, 24/7 access to the system, care providers can reduce their administrative workloads and quickly and accurately generate reports while delivering timely, quality care to their patients.

CLINICARE Signs Contracts with PITO Pilot Sites in BC

CLINICARE Corporation announces that it has signed contracts with Dawson Creek Medical Clinic, an 8 Physician multidiscipline group practice in Dawson Creek and Anchor Medical Clinic, a 5 Family Physician group practice in Nanaimo for the installation of CLINICARE's EMR and Practice Management Applications (PMA) software.

Dawson Creek and Anchor clinics are two of the five PITO Pilot sites selected by PITO to be implemented first before broad implementation begins throughout the province. The PITO pilot projects provide an opportunity for PITO to ensure that the entire PITO offering of products and services (EMR, network, hardware, and implementation support) is working well together and meeting physician needs before rollout begins to the broader physician community later this Fall.

"After reviewing other PITO vendors, we decided that CLINICARE offered an excellent product with great service," said Greg Simmons, Clinic Manager at Anchor Medical Clinic.

"We can't afford downtime and with CLINICARE, reliability is not just a promise - it's a fact."

"We all agree that PITO did a remarkable job of choosing these six systems for funding," said Al Riederer, Clinic Manager at Dawson Creek Medical Clinic. "The challenge was for us to decide which one was the 'best fit' for our organization. In the end, CLINICARE was the clear winner because of their proven track record."

"We are pleased to be one of the first vendors to proceed with implementation at two of the five pilot sites in BC," says Dennis Niebergal, president and CEO of CLINICARE. "We have increased our resources over this past year in anticipation of this provincial program. We expect that a significant number of practices in BC will now be interested in a relationship with CLINICARE because of our proven products and services."

News Highlights

GE Healthcare It and Ormed Announce Global Reseller Agreement

GE Healthcare IT has announced a global reseller agreement with Ormed Information Systems. The agreement will allow GE to resell select applications across the Ormed portfolio, including supply chain management, e-commerce, human resources, and general accounting software. The agreement will also provide GE Healthcare and Ormed the ability to leverage shared distribution channels.

"We're excited at the opportunity to give healthcare providers integrated access to the best-of-breed solutions of two leading providers," said Chris Sherback, president and CEO, Ormed Information Systems. "Ormed solutions complement GE Healthcare IT solutions to provide customers with the efficiency, convenience, and confidence of implementing a total solution from a single vendor."

"Delivering high performance, reliability, and great value to our customers is at the center of everything we do," said Laurent Rotival, vice president and general manager, GE Healthcare IT. "Today's announcement will provide customers with the ability

to enhance their existing Centricity platform with applications that complement GE Healthcare's revenue cycle management solution and that help us deliver end-to-end financial management to our customers."

Exclusively developed for healthcare, ORMED MIS software and ORMED X e-commerce solutions streamline the business of healthcare. By automating and integrating business processes in finance, business intelligence, supply chain, and HR/payroll, Ormed solutions facilitate optimal workflow and tighter financial control to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

Headquartered in the UK, GE Healthcare is a \$17 billion unit of General Electric Company, employing 46,000 people, worldwide, committed to serving healthcare professionals and their patients in more than 100 countries.

Alberta-based Ormed, with offices in Ontario, BC, and Texas, is a leading provider of integrated, automated MIS software and e-commerce solutions that streamline business processes in healthcare.

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IBM Canada Subsidiary Opens International Centre of Excellence

IBM announced it has created a Centre of Excellence in Quebec City to deliver a solution to facilitate the sharing of critical medical documents between physicians, clinics and hospitals around the world. Artefact Informatique, a division of LGS Group Inc., an IBM company, will be the exclusive global provider of the solution.

The solution acts as a registry and repository for a wide range of diverse documents including lab reports, digital images, and drug profiles. Authorized healthcare professionals can search, retrieve and view documents from their own jurisdictions or other jurisdictions – regardless of where or how originals are stored. It was developed to be easily integrated with Electronic Health Record solutions because it is based on open industry standards such as DICOM, HL7, and XDS.

“The ability to access health information dispersed among diverse organizations is one of the main IT challenges facing today’s healthcare providers. Standards-based solutions are a crucial factor in answering this challenge,” said Barry Burk, vice-president, Healthcare Industry, IBM Canada. “Artefact’s and IBM’s expertise in healthcare and experience in globally integrating enterprises will together advance the ability of healthcare enterprises around the world to share critical medical information and improve patient care.”

The solution conforms to the Cross-enterprise Document Sharing (XDS) Integration Profile as defined by Integrating the

Healthcare Enterprise (IHE), a global initiative by healthcare professionals and industry to improve the way computers share health information.

“It has been shown many times that systems using IHE communicate with one another better, are easier to implement, and enable care providers to use information more effectively. Physicians, medical specialists, nurses, and other care providers have been waiting for the day when vital information can be shared seamlessly regardless of where they are or which system they are using. That day is now,” said Jose Mussi, executive director, IHE Canada.

IBM, an early advocate for healthcare industry standards, is actively engaged in IHE Planning and Technical Committees and participates in interoperability events and demonstrations worldwide.

IBM’s healthcare strategy is based on the adoption of a service-oriented architecture (SOA) approach and the use of open standards and standards-based electronic health records to provide secure and private exchanges of records between authorized healthcare providers.

More than 30 IBM researchers and software engineers in labs in Haifa, Israel, Rochester, Minnesota and San Jose, California have invested three years developing the SOA solution which is built on IBM WebSphere and DB2 software.

EMIS Inc. Provides Leadership in Transition to SNOMED-CT Adoption

Building on its offer to share its intellectual property regarding coding and terminologies with stakeholders across Canada (<http://www.emis.ca/about-us/emis-news/shareip/>), EMIS Inc. continues to support Canadian efforts to adopt SNOMED-CT™ and other terminologies as a national system to normalize data contained in electronic medical records (EMRs). EMIS has participated in numerous sessions with stakeholders who requested their assistance to better understand the intellectual property, as well as how the EMR can facilitate adoption of SNOMED-CT and other terminologies.

By way of background, in February 2006, Canada Health Infoway’s Standards Steering Committee approved SNOMED-CT as one of the core terminologies to be adopted in the evolution of the national iEHR, spawning various initiatives across the country at the provincial level, and national organizations such as Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), to enable adoption of this normalized codification system in all EMRs. Stakeholders are striving to learn from the experiences of others who have already adopted SNOMED-CT and related systems; EMIS Inc. is actively participating in this effort.

SNOMED-CT is based on the evolutionary union of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases (ICD) code-set and the Read code-set, developed by James Read, M.D., and has subsequently evolved to become the internationally recognized standard means of coding virtually all entries in a patient’s chart. Ensuring the successful adoption of standardized terminologies such as SNOMED-CT within all vendors’ solutions in Canada is important for the sustainability of the Canadian healthcare system, particularly in providing the measurable benefits of enhanced disease prevention and chronic disease management within an EMR, and between disparate EMRs. This success has been realized in other parts of the world where standardized terminologies have successfully been adopted.

EMIS Inc. continues to work with stakeholders across Canada, demonstrating how a well-designed, clinically-focused EMR effectively codifies entries into a patient’s chart with little-to-no effort by physicians/healthcare professionals. EMIS Inc.’s parent company is based in the U.K., and since its inception over 20 years ago, has enabled normalized codification into its solutions. EMIS’ solutions, throughout this period, have been adopted by greater than 60% of primary care physicians in the U.K.

News Highlights

MacNaught-Taillon (M&T) Leadership Award Established

The MacNaught-Taillon (M&T) Award has been established to honour the outstanding and lasting contributions of Don MacNaught and Serge Taillon to the Canadian health care system. Beginning in the mid-1980s in the Health Information Division of Health Canada, Don and Serge worked side by side to contribute their leadership in a spirit of cooperation to initiatives such as the National Health Information Council and the National Health Information Task Force. Their vision, stamina and perseverance contributed significantly to the realization of the Canadian Institute for Health Information in 1994. Whereas Don has been referred to as "Mr. Medicare" by former Health Minister Hon. Monique Bégin, it is equally fitting to call Serge "Mr. Health Information". In summary they deserve much of the credit for transforming health informatics to usable health information in Canada.

The M&T award recognizes outstanding individual contributions to Canadian health care through emerging and exemplary leadership and mentorship in the advancement of health policy, health information and health informatics.

The criteria for this award include:

- Fostering linkages and exchanges related to health information between governments, academia and the health community;
- Fostering pan-Canadian approaches to the development and adoption of standards for the collection, compilation and dissemination of health information;
- Training the next generation of Canadian health policy/information/informatics professionals;
- Development and articulation of a vision for an integrated health information system for Canada; and
- Pioneering approaches to policy-relevant research and analysis of health information.

This award will be presented annually at the Fall symposium of CHLNet, an event that will bring together leaders from across the health sector (government, NGO organizations, academia, institutional and community-based providers, private sector) to address leadership issues, to review best practices in leadership and to recognize individuals who have demonstrated leadership, excellence and a high level of service within the Canadian health community.

The M&T Award is a nominated award, and will be adjudicated by an awards committee struck from the CHLNet membership, the Board of the Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation and the founding sponsors. Nominations will be solicited widely within the Canadian health community by June 30 annually. Each award recipient will be an invited guest at the formal presentation at the annual CHLNet symposium (travel and accommodation included).

The award is accompanied by a bursary to support further training, research or education in health informatics and/or health policy that will be presented to an up and coming leader who will be designated at the discretion of the M&T Award recipient.

The M&T award has been made possible through a generous initial private donation matched by a corporate contribution from CLINICARE Corporation. This prestigious annual award, which will become part of the Canadian Health Leadership Network (CHLNet) awards program, is supported by the Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation. CHLNet is a recently established national coalition whose mission is to identify, support and celebrate leadership in health and health care in Canada (see www.chlnet.ca). The Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation was established to honour individuals who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to the advancement of the health ideals personified by Justice Hall (see www.econ.uregina.ca/hall).

Sponsorship of the M&T award is open to companies and individuals, and additional sponsors are actively being sought. All sponsors will be acknowledged by CHLNet and the Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation for their contributions.



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Courtyard Establishes Denis and Pat Protti Endowment Fund - Inaugural Recipients Announced

At a ceremony in Victoria in May 2008 Courtyard Managing Partner, Dave Wattling, presented \$50,000 to the Denis and Pat Protti Endowment Fund, a fund designed to support the University of Victoria's School of Health Information Science.

This annual contribution commitment by Courtyard is in recognition of the leadership of Denis Protti, founder of the University of Victoria's School of Health Information Science. Courtyard's donation will help to build the future of healthcare transformation in Canada and will also support the School of Health Information Science to attract graduate students to build future capacity in the healthcare industry. The fund is specifically designed to help students in the program develop their health informatics expertise by enabling them to attend conferences they otherwise could not attend or by giving them direct financial support to assist them in completing their studies.

From an impressive group of applicants, four students have been selected to receive the inaugural awards.

Fourth year student Julia Yinxiu Zhu received the Endowment Fund's Student Enrichment Award. This award is given to an undergraduate student for the purpose of facilitating an external educational experience such as a conference or seminar. Julia plans to attend the ITCH conference in Victoria this coming February.



Graduate students Tyrone Austen, Anjum Khamisani, Mu-Hsing Kuo and Felicia Pantazi received the Fund's Graduate Student Award in recognition of their commitment to advancing the field of health informatics. These winners combine a passion for health informatics with a desire for continued learning, and between them bring impressive experience to the program from healthcare venues in Canada and abroad.

Courtyard Group extends their sincere congratulations to this initial group of Endowment Fund recipients. The healthcare community in Canada and beyond looks forward to the transformational impact they will have in their chosen disciplines.

Says Wattling, "Courtyard believes that the future of healthcare transformation lies in the hands of young people; people who we entice into our industry and train for the task. To this first group of worthy recipients - you have set the bar for future applicants - well done!"

Courtyard Group, united by a common mission and singular, unwavering focus on delivering practical and concrete results, is a healthcare transformation company, operating from offices across Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

Dave Wattling presents Cheque for \$50,000.00 to Denis and Patricia Protti

MediSolution Closes Sale of Healthcare Information Systems Division

MediSolution Ltd. has announced that it has completed the sale of substantially all of its Healthcare Information Systems division including its revenue cycle management product (formerly known as MediAR) to a wholly-owned subsidiary of Healthvision Solutions, Inc.

On closing, the company received \$36,959,265 in cash, which is the base purchase price of \$49,500,000 less the deferred portion of the purchase price, and less an adjustment based on estimated working capital, including annual support billings. The deferred portion of the purchase price is equivalent to ten percent of the base purchase price, or \$4,950,000, payable no later than one year from the closing date. The purchase price is subject to final adjustments following the closing date.

The transaction excludes MediSolution's core resource management suite of products and the blood bank product line, which will remain with the company.

As a result, MediSolution has become a Resource Management/ Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) company with a specialty product niche in blood bank. The company's comprehensive product lines include the Virtuo Financial Management Suite (FMS), Virtuo Human Capital Suite (HCM), Virtuo Business Intelligence Solutions (BI) and the blood bank product line (BB).

Over the years, MediSolution and Virtuo Solutions have established, through the deployment of more than 400 solutions, an impressive, growing and highly satisfied customer base comprised of close to 275 HCM, FMS and BI healthcare and service sector customers. In addition, close to 100 sites are operating the Traceline blood bank solution.

Infoway Finalizes Preferred Solution Agreement with GE Healthcare

Canada Health Infoway (Infoway) has announced it has negotiated preferential conditions and pricing with GE Healthcare Canada through a Preferred Solution Agreement for their Centricity Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS) and Diagnostic Imaging Repository (DI-r).

"The project investments made in diagnostic imaging are translating into real-time benefits and progress in diagnosis and treatment, providing clinicians and patients with more accurate results and reduced wait times," said Richard Alvarez, Infoway's president and CEO.

Through an Infoway project investment, British Columbia's Interior Health Authority demonstrated an overall average 41 per cent decrease in turnaround time for radiology results since the implementation of PACS. Similar technology provided by GE Healthcare at the province's Fraser Health Authority uncovered millions in annual cost savings by reducing film costs and

storage space and increasing productivity. By 2010, Canadians will benefit from improved radiology services made possible by digital diagnostic imaging in all provinces and territories.

A key element of the Canada-wide agreement is preferential pricing for jurisdictions who implement a shared service where several hospitals agree to use a common PACS and DI-r infrastructure. GE Healthcare's commitment to adhere to pan-Canadian standards, and applicable privacy and security requirements, is covered in the agreement.

The Canada-wide agreement will help accelerate the implementation of electronic health records, making it simpler for provinces and territories to acquire a diagnostic imaging solution. GE Healthcare Canada joins Agfa Healthcare, Christie Group Ltd., McKesson Information Solutions, and Philips Healthcare as preferred solution providers for diagnostic imaging.

MED2020 Launches New Solution for Long Term Care Facilities in Canada

MED2020 Health Care Software Inc., a Canadian pioneer in Health Information Management solutions has entered the Long Term Care sector of the Health Information Management market place with the launch of a new solution from their software suite. Named MDS 2.0, the application is designed to assist long term care facilities with managing the health data of their chronic care patients and residents.

Product Manager, Joanne Ross, says, "We are really pleased with this new solution. MDS 2.0 is a minimum data set collection and analytical tool that facilitates management of patient data. We believe it will benefit long term care facilities in the same way that our abstracting and coding applications have successfully assisted hospital and health care facilities in the acute care sector. Staff at nursing and retirement homes will

be able to easily analyze and report health data and we have ensured that the application has Wireless capability, making it easier for them to assess and record patient diagnoses and treatment at a patient's bedside".

"MED2020 is moving forward in 2008/2009 with a broader range of enterprise solutions to assist health care facilities with managing secondary data" states Chief Operating Officer, Michael Martineau. "We are already established in the acute care sector so it makes sense for us to enter the long term care market and the launch of MDS 2.0 demonstrates our continued commitment to the health information management industry. The new MDS 2.0 application complements MED2020's other MDS-based solutions for the Complex Continuing Care, Rehabilitation, Mental Health and Cancer Care sectors".

McKesson's Practice Partner Software Receives Top Ratings

McKesson's Practice Partner® solution suite of fully integrated electronic health record (EHR) and practice management applications received top rankings in the 2008 AC Group Practice Management System (PMS) and EHR Vendor Functionality and Company Rating Report. Practice Partner's integrated EHR and PMS software solution received an overall 5-star rating – the best possible rating across all practice sizes, from small to large practices. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Practice Partner solution has received the report's top rating.

The AC Group report is an extensive evaluation based on responses to over 4,000 questions. The EHR survey includes 3,200 functional questions divided into 43 categories, and the PMS survey includes over 1,000 functionality questions

divided into 25 categories. More than 80 vendors participated in the survey. The AC Group quantified seven components to determine vendor ratings: product functionality, end-user satisfaction, company financial viability, client base, technology, price, and implementation approach. McKesson's Practice Partner solution received exceptional rankings in all seven areas.

"We consistently work to demonstrate the end user's ability to benefit from the use of technology within a physician's office," said Bing Teng, McKesson's general manager for Practice Partner. "Through studies like the AC Group's report, Practice Partner software customers have independent validation of our commitment to developing products that best serve the continuously evolving needs of physician practices."

News Highlights

Building Worldwide Capacity for the Health Informatics Workforce

The Department of Medical Informatics at Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires hosted "Building Worldwide Capacity for the Health Informatics Workforce", a two-day session sponsored by the IMIA Working Group on Health and Medical Informatics Education under the leadership of Dr. William Hersh, the Working Group's Chair. The goals of the meeting were to provide both an exposition for identifying and harmonizing competencies and curricula for health and biomedical informatics.

This international event is a key component of the work inspired by the Rockefeller Foundation's commitment to the development of an eHealth agenda for the global south "Making the eHealth Connection" (www.ehealth-connection.org) The session was a true example of collaboration in its finest sense - on a global scale. It was a noteworthy achievement surmounting a host of language, cultural, economic, religious and political "barriers".

The "Making the eHealth Connection" programme is led by the Rockefeller Foundation in coordination with conveners that are internationally-recognized in the fields of global health, international development, and information & communications technology (ICT). These conveners include:

- American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA)
- Health Level Seven (HL7)
- Health Metrics Network (HMN)
- International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA)
- Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME)

- Partners in Health (PIH)
- Public Health Institute
- Regenstrief Institute
- Telemedicine Society of India
- United Nations Foundation
- University of Washington's Center for Public Health Informatics
- Vodafone Group Foundation
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Members of the international community - donors, governments, industry, researchers and civil society are engaged in this effort to raise the profile of eHealth, form new partnerships and identify promising new areas of work for the Global South. While conference participation is by invitation only, the Foundation will be providing many ways to be involved with conference discussions through blogs, video presentations and other interactive mediums.

Proceedings from the "Building Worldwide Capacity for the Health Informatics Workforce" will be available on the IMIA website (www.imia.org).

Canadian researchers, scientists and educators who wish to participate in the work of IMIA's Working Group on Health and Medical Informatics Education may contact Dr. Hersh at hersh@ohsu.edu.

Education Collaboration in South Africa

For the past two years, members of CHIRAD, the Centre for Health Informatics Research and Development, have been teaching an MSc in Health Informatics program in Mthatha, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. A collaborative venture, funded by the Medical Research Council of South Africa, has support and input from the Eastern Cape Health Department, and is taught at Walter Sisulu University (WSU) in Mthatha, using the curriculum developed by and taught at The University of Winchester in the UK. Students will receive their degrees from the University of Winchester.

A cohort of 11 students started the course in June 2006 and will complete the program in November 2008; the cohort includes faculty members of the Department of Family Medicine at WSU, local hospital managers and staff at the Nelson Mandela

Academic Hospital as well as senior information staff at the Eastern Cape Department of Health.

The project is designed to help build local health informatics capacity and competence by providing a group of qualified health Informaticians who will then work locally to develop a Centre of Excellence for health informatics for the Eastern Cape and South Africa, developing the MSc in health informatics locally, as well as other academic and vocational courses to meet locally-identified needs for information management skills.

For further information visit: <http://www.chirad.org> and <http://www.wsu.ac.za/news/informatics.htm>

COACH Elects 2008-2009 Board of Directors

COACH: Canada's Health Informatics Association has announced that the following five new Directors were elected to serve on the 2008-09 Board of Directors:

- **Lydia Lee**, CIO, Shared Information Management Services (SIMS);
- **Marion Lyver**, President, Healthy Futures Inc. and Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University;
- **Mike Rigo**, Vice-President, Solutions Delivery/Management, Smart Systems for Health Agency;

- **Heather Tabin**, Divisional Director, Customer Planning & Services, Manitoba eHealth;
- **Michael Whitt**, Partner, Lawyer & Patent & Trade-mark Agent, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP.

The new Directors have been elected for a two-year term. They join the other members of the 2008-09 Board, continuing in their terms: President and Chair **Linda Miller**, Past President **Shelagh Maloney** and Directors **Neil Gardner** and **Gavin Tong**.

The new Directors officially assumed their duties at the Annual General Meeting in Vancouver, May 6, 2008.

AHIMA HOD Approves New Health Data Analyst Certification

The governing body of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA), House of Delegates has voted to develop a new certification for health information management professionals. The specialty health data analyst certification will provide practitioners with the expertise to analyze, manage, interpret and transform data into accurate, useful and timely information.

"In this emerging role, health data analysts have to focus on the details of medical records using electronic systems to extrapolate conclusions from stored data," AHIMA President Wendy Mangin said.

Because health records are comprised of myriad data; including physician visits, and information that can be used to develop new treatment techniques and track population health, "Health data analysts must be skilled in statistical software and other data processing programs," Mangin said.

Understanding the value of data is critical to obtain this credential. There are specific qualifications required for initial certification as a certified health data analyst. That means

candidates have to meet one of the following eligibility requirements to take the examination:

- Baccalaureate degree or higher and a minimum of five years of healthcare data experience.
- Healthcare Information Administration credential (RHIA) and a minimum of one year of healthcare data experience.
- Experience in healthcare data will be verified through the application process that requires work-related experience in healthcare data management, analysis and reporting.

The American Health Information Management Association is America's leading professional society whose mission is to "improve healthcare by advancing best practices and standards for health information management and [serve as] the trusted source for education, research and professional credentialing." AHIMA represents more than 52,000 specially educated HIM professionals who serve healthcare and the public by managing, analyzing and utilizing data vital for health system management. www.ahima.org

Practice Solutions' CMS Certified for Physician Use in Ontario

Practice Solutions Software is pleased to offer more choice to physicians with the newly certified Application Service Provider (ASP) version of its Practice Solutions(TM) Suite Clinical Management System (CMS). This follows OntarioMD's rigorous and comprehensive certification process.

Chosen in 2007 as one of two additional ASP solutions to be made available to funding-eligible physicians, Practice Solutions Suite ASP operates from a central location over a secure network offering all the same features as the already certified Local Offering.

Practice Solutions Suite(TM) is currently used by more than 3,000 physicians in 1,000 practices, managing two million electronic patient records in Canada. Physicians in seven provinces are now using Practice Solutions EMR to effectively manage their patient records.

Practice Solutions Suite combines EMR with automated alerts for drug and treatment conflicts; patient management and scheduling; chronic disease management and automated billing and reporting, into a comprehensive, easy-to-use CMS enabling medical practitioners to improve delivery of services and devote more time to patient care.

"The certification of our ASP offering means that funding-eligible physicians now have even more choice when it comes to managing their patient records. They can customize their EMR software to be in English or French, for use on a Mac or a PC platform, and now be hosted locally, or via ASP," said Rob Thorpe, President of Practice Solutions Software. "Practice Solutions Suite is the only Canadian product to offer this breadth of choice in EMR software, proving our commitment to meeting the needs of Canadian physicians."