

Health Informatics Awards

AWARD RECIPIENTS *Gala*



Emerging Leader in Health Informatics Award

presented by the Courtyard Group

The commitment and innovative work of Sherman Quan has significantly contributed to Health Informatics in Ontario.

Upon joining the Department of Medicine at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre as a Health Informatician in 2004, he immediately solidified a partnership with the Corporate Information Services group.

His leadership in forming this partnership was a key turning point for moving the hospital's e-Health agenda forward, creating a culture where physicians and other multidisciplinary staff are embracing technology as an approach for improving patient care. He has led the implementation of many innovative solutions to improve patient safety and quality of care, notably Palm-based electronic prescribing over a wireless network, Real-time automated alerts for critical laboratory values, Electronic patient sign-out applications and Ontario critical care best practices.

Sherman is actively involved with research projects that involve multiple organizations, including the University Health Network, Mount Sinai Hospital, and St. Michael's Hospital. The benefits of collaboration include the improved utilization of existing resources, increased ability to encourage investments from granting agencies and industry, and better common user interfaces for shared faculty and trainees.

Our recipient has also been instrumental in forming various industry partnerships with organizations such as Microsoft Canada and Palm Canada. These industry partnerships are essential for sustaining innovation in the Canadian healthcare system because it allows each group to harness their respective strengths and alleviate the financial challenges that organizations face when undertaking initiatives alone.

He has devoted much time to disseminating knowledge gained from his experiences through publishing in various journals. Additionally, he provides our next generation of health informatics professionals with real world practical experience by supporting a co-op student program at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.



CHITTA Healthcare Transformation Award

Orion Health , Edmonton, AB,
Michael Craig, Vice President of Sales accepting

In April 2004, Capital Health launched netCARE; Canada's first region-wide integrated Electronic Health Record - a web-based, clinical portal providing the ability to connect with multiple clinical source systems or repositories through a standards-based approach. It connects patient records across 13 hospitals, 22 public health centres, and 15 clinics and community health centres.

Orion developed this clinical portal solution in cooperation with Capital Health clinician groups. The Portal leverages Capital Health's underlying information systems, achieving regional, patient-centric health information without requiring the replacement of existing patient care systems.

The Portal displays patient health information in a consistent clinician-friendly manner across Capital Health's facilities and programs. It provides the ability to review and manage clinical documents and results, to securely communicate with clinical users within the portal environment, and the ability to provide access to clinical information in both community and hospital settings. Users of the Portal are able to collate clinical information from multiple sources onto one web screen all within a secure environment. All user access to the portal is audited, and system administrators are able to restrict access to clinical information.

The portal also provides measurable improvements in patient outcomes. The availability of information has reduced the number of interventions by providing clinicians with up-to-date and comprehensive patient records, and has significantly reduced clerical time. Today netCARE has more than 9800 users, and the number has been growing at eight percent per month for the past year. The portal has enjoyed a high adoption rate by clinicians and has been embraced as a valuable tool in daily clinical activities.