

eHealth Ontario Accomplishments

November 2, 2010

Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Adoption Program

- Almost 5,500 doctors have been adopted electronic medical records to enhance patient care, improve health outcomes and increase patient safety.
- A year ago, over 3,000 doctors had adopted electronic records.
- Replacing paper with electronic records means fewer errors and more time spent on patient care, and easier clinical data analysis.
- Doctors, hospitals, specialists and providers in the circle of care can share information securely, quickly and easily.

Telemedicine

- This year, Ontario Telehealth Network (OTN) will deliver more than 90,000 patient visits; patients get care as close to home as possible.
- In the past year alone, more than 31,000 telemedicine clinical consultations have taken place in northern Ontario.
- Nearly 3,000 health care professionals in more than 1,000 sites across the province use the OTN to deliver care to their patients.
- Since 2006, Telemedicine has saved approximately 134 million kilometres in patient travel.

Telesroke

- The Telesroke Program provides stroke patients in remote areas of the province with 24/7 access to life-saving emergency care that they might not receive without this real-time expert neurological assessment.

Emergency Neurosurgery Image Transfer System (ENITS)

- Neurologists at any one of Ontario's 13 neurosurgery centres can examine scans 24/7 and assess if a patient with head trauma needs to be transferred to another facility to receive acute care or recommend immediate treatment procedure.
- Over 300 unnecessary transfers have been avoided to date. Transfers are very risky for patients and they cause significant anxiety for patients' families. They are also expensive.

Diagnostic Imaging / Picture Archiving and Communications System (DI/PACS)

- 148 hospitals in Ontario now use digital diagnostic images electronically instead of film.
- Using the Digital Imaging and Picture Archiving Communications System (Di/PACS) avoids the physical transfer of images and duplication of tests, saving time and yielding faster results for patients.
- Radiation exposure to patients is reduced and health care costs are minimized.
- For the first time, all 26 hospital entities in the Erie St. Clair and South West Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) are now able to access filmless diagnostic

images including x-rays, CT scans and MRIs through the Southwestern Ontario Diagnostic Imaging Network.

Drug Profile Viewer (DPV)

- DPV displays medication histories in emergency departments, hospital wards and clinics and in-patient pharmacies for the 2.5 million patients who are Ontario Drug Benefit recipients. (These patients account for 43 per cent of all prescriptions written within the province.)
- It enables doctors to identify potential drug interactions, saving lives and ensuring confidence in treatment plans for patients.

ePrescribing

- eHealth Ontario launched Canada's first ePrescribing program at two demonstration sites (Group Health Centre in Sault Ste. Marie and Georgian Bay Family Health Team in Collingwood).
- ePrescribing improves quality of patient care by giving doctors and pharmacists access to reliable, timely prescription and dispensing information.
- ePrescribing saves lives and reduces visits to emergency departments and doctors offices by preventing adverse drug reactions caused by illegible paper prescriptions.
- Electronic authentication, authorization and delivery of prescriptions reduces the potential for prescription fraud and diversion.

Hospital Report Manager (HRM)

- HRM sends hospital reports within minutes to the physician's electronic medical record system instead of sending paper reports or faxes.
- Patients do not wait for information to follow them – doctors have the most up-to-date information about their patient before he or she arrives for an appointment.
- Patients get more timely access to care and their anxiety while waiting for results and treatment plans is greatly reduced.
- Over 100 doctors are using the HRM. It can be used between any hospital and doctors office using OntarioMD certified electronic medical records systems.

Chronic Disease Management System - Diabetes

- Diabetes is a chronic disease that is a serious and growing health problem. It is the sixth leading cause of death in Ontario and Canada. Diabetes is a leading cause of cardiovascular disease, amputation, blindness and end-stage renal failure leading to dialysis.
- In Ontario, more than 1,100,000 people (8.3 per cent of the population) are living with type 1 and type 2 diabetes. The number is expected to increase by another 734,000 over the next decade to 1.9 million by 2020.
- Use of the Chronic Disease Management System - Diabetes (CDMS-Diabetes) by health care providers will save Ontarians' lives, limbs and vision.
- The Diabetes Registry will help patients and health care providers manage care for Ontarians with diabetes according to recommended guidelines.