January eUpdate

CBC News Profiles Digital Health Drug Repository Pilot Project

Preparing to Release the Next Version of ClinicalConnect

Welcome to New ClinicalConnect Participating Organizations!

New Study Credits ClinicalConnect as an "important tool"

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According to a recent case study conducted in the Erie St. Clair LHIN-region, ClinicalConnect provides "significant clinical and organizational value benefiting patient flow and care."

Chatham-Kent Health Alliance Emergency Department physician Dr. Lindsey Sutherland said she accessed ClinicalConnect over the course of 10 shifts in August and September of 2016, whenever
she felt comprehensive medical history was unlikely to be locally available. She found that in six out of the seven times she logged in, data contained in the viewer made a clinical and/or organizational difference.

"ClinicalConnect is an important tool in the ED when dealing with our most complex and vulnerable
patients," Dr. Sutherland said. "It allows us to fill gaps within a patient's medical history by accessing consult and investigation reports from neighbouring communities."

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CBC News Profiles Digital Health Drug Repository Early Adopter Project

The Digital Health Drug Repository (DHDR) represents the first foundational component of the Province's Comprehensive Drug Profile Strategy (CDPS). The DHDR project provides an electronic repository of publicly funded drugs, monitored drugs and pharmacy services information that will expand on what has been provided to date in the Drug Profile Viewer (DPV). The DHDR has recently been integrated into ClinicalConnect to further enhance the data and information currently available in the integrated electronic health record in south west Ontario. This new data set, accessible through ClinicalConnect, was cited as a 'game-changer' in a recent news story published by CBC News.

"Many people who come in a state of crisis - emergency departments are always stressful, of course - they can't recall what they do take, they don't know the names of complex medications, they don't remember the dates or details of things that have happened recently," described Dr. Ian Digby, a physician in the emergency department at Guelph General Hospital. "As long as I have some demographic information, some way to identify them - ideally a health card - then I'm able to log into the system [ClinicalConnect] and find out information on them."

Three organizations are currently participating in the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's project, delivered locally by the cSWO Program, which has enabled them to access prescription information through the provincial government's Narcotics Monitoring System. Guelph Community Health Centre and the Guelph Family Health Team are also participating in the early adopter initiative. The DHDR will be made available to additional health care providers with access to ClinicalConnect through a coordinated and planned approach beginning in February.

Preparing to Release the Next Version of ClinicalConnect

The ClinicalConnect team has been working diligently to prepare for the next major release known as Version 5.0. Currently, data-contributing Participating Organizations are actively testing the new version of ClinicalConnect to ensure their organization's data being aggregated in ClinicalConnect appears correctly and modules are functioning as expected. To prepare these organization's Central Points of Contact to complete their required testing of the new release, the HITS eHealth Office at Hamilton Health Sciences, Solution Provider for ClinicalConnect, hosted webinars earlier this month.

This next version of ClinicalConnect will offer a completely redesigned user interface, or look and feel. Basic functionality will remain the same, but users will experience heightened intuitive usability and navigation across existing modules and patient data. This redesign will make ClinicalConnect more reflective of many web applications by leveraging common navigation tools found in widely-used web media and applications, and will also be compliant with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

Please stay tuned for more information about the new version of ClinicalConnect, which is targeted to go-live at the end of June 2017.

Welcome to New ClinicalConnect Participating Organizations!

Congratulations to the following healthcare organizations that were approved to become ClinicalConnect Participating Organizations in January 2017:

- Personal Care Pharmacy Solutions Inc. [Waterloo Wellington LHIN]
- Ritz Lutheran Villa [South West LHIN]
- Windsor Essex Community Health Centre [Erie St. Clair LHIN]

For general inquiries, please email info@clinicalconnect.ca
For technical support, please email helpd@hhsc.ca or call the HITS Help Desk: (905) 521-2100 ext 43000

For more information,
visit info.clinicalconnect.ca

Connect to your patients with ClinicalConnect™!

ClinicalConnect is the Regional Clinical Viewer for the connecting South West Ontario (cSWO) Program, funded by eHealth Ontario. Health Information Technology Services (HITS), a division of Hamilton Health Sciences, is the solution provider deploying ClinicalConnect across the four south west LHINs. The cSWO Program is foundational to eHealth Ontario's commitment to integrate electronic health information for all Ontarians.