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Conference Abstract

Sharing is caring: rolling out the electronic shared care record

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Abstract

Informational integration is often cited as a necessary precursor to achieve service integration across organisations and settings for complex patients.

The Wellington E Shared Care Record project aims to make vital patient health information from general practice available to other care settings such as emergency departments, after hours centres, hospital outpatient departments, community pharmacies, aged residential care facilities and paramedic services. Compass Health is leading the implementation of the project across four district health boards in the lower North Island that have a combined total patient population of over 660,000 patients. Three months after go live in one District Health Board area, hospital specialists and ED nurses are now viewing electronic general practice summary records some 1400 times per month.

Lessons to date include: the importance of opt off rather than opt on systems; the role of a meso level primary care network in obtaining support from general practitioners; the importance of the ability to exclude sensitive codes; and the evolutionary nature of clinical trust in information systems. A preliminary evaluation indicates that the electronic shared care record has already averted sentinel adverse events.

This paper outlines briefly the system solution, the implementation processes and the lessons learned.

Keywords

electronic health care record privacy
