

shared clinical
information
across the
community



Case Study

Goldfields Esperance GP Network Shared Electronic Health Record (IEHR)

About the Client

The Goldfields Esperance GP Network is one of the largest and most remote regions in Australia covering 815,464 square kilometres making up 32.6% (or one-third) of the land mass of Western Australia.

The total population for the region is 54,855 persons with 32,042 residing in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and 13,271 residing in Esperance. The number of Aboriginal people in the region represents 10.5% of the total population.

The Network was formed in 1994 and has a main office in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and an office in Esperance. There are approximately 50 FTE General Practitioners throughout the Goldfields Esperance GP Network. The GP to patient ratio is well above the national average, ranging from 1500-1999 in Esperance to 2500-9999 in some of the smaller towns.

About the Project

The Goldfields Esperance GP Network has implemented the GoldHealth individual shared electronic health record.

The GoldHealth system has a focus on providing an important service to patients in the community by following them with their critical clinical information so it can be shared, with consent, with the health care professionals on their care team. Targeting predominately the chronic and complex cohorts, the GoldHealth individual shared electronic health record also serves as a valuable tool for the highly mobile Indigenous population within the region.

With unprecedented enthusiasm and co-operation from the health care professionals in the Goldfields region, the GoldHealth system boasts one of the most diverse communities connected to an individual shared electronic health record. They include General Practices, Specialists, Public Hospitals, Allied Health Professionals and Remote Aboriginal Medical Services.

There are around 100 providers in the Goldfields region connected. They are using the system to improve care for 160 of their patients who would most benefit from sharing their health summary.

The GEGPN views the individual shared electronic health record as the 'next step' for the GoldHealth Network and a major contributor to the future sustainability of the Network. It will add value to the existing Network as well as having a positive impact on the health of residents in the Goldfields region.



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Project Design

The Goldfields Esperance GP Network has been awarded funding through the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) to build upon the GoldHealth Network infrastructure by developing a Shared Electronic Health Record.

The Project to establish the SEHR was funded by DoHA commencing in 2007 which involved the development and implementation phases of the Project. Once the SEHR was operational it was evaluated by the Rural Clinical School and during 2009 the community experienced steady growth registering health care providers and their patients. The current momentum bodes well for rapid growth in 2010.

Shared Electronic Health Record (IEHR)

Extensia has provided their RecordPoint technology to provide a secure, electronic health record summary containing information such as current medications, allergies, and diagnosis history. This is maintained for each participating patient.

Benefits

- ▶ Improved quality of care for patients of GoldHealth members
- ▶ Reduced duplication of services by improved monitoring and care coordination
- ▶ Maintenance of an optimal level of health
- ▶ Improved knowledge about health services
- ▶ Reduced risk of hospital admissions and unnecessary readmissions
- ▶ Increased practice capacity to manage patients with chronic disease

Reference

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RecordPoint provides

- ✓ **NHRC Report**
- ✓ **Deloitte National E-Health Strategy**
- ✓ **NEHTA Standards (UHI ready)**
- ✓ **Centralised, hosted Shared EHR**
- ✓ **Patient consent management**
- ✓ **Coordinated care for chronic disease**
- ✓ **User Security and Authentication**
- ✓ **Interface to desktop clinical systems**
- ✓ **Audit Logs**
- ✓ **Remote Aboriginal Medical Services**

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