

Sharing Electronic Health Records



The mission of Canada Health Infoway is to foster and accelerate the development of pan-Canadian electronic health information systems, and subsequently develop a federated information network to securely exchange data. MEDITECH customers are well positioned to achieve the sophisticated electronic exchange of information called for in Infoway's Vision 2015, which includes:

- Sharing and exchanging clinical information (problems, medications, allergies, and test results) among care providers
- Sharing electronic care summaries
- Prescribing medications electronically and reconciling medications among care settings
- Deploying interoperability solutions at local, regional, and provincial levels
- Communicating with provincial domains and public health agencies.

This document outlines the MEDITECH integration and interoperability solutions available to help transform Canada's health-care delivery system.

Sharing and Exchanging Key Health Information

MEDITECH is at the forefront of the effort to facilitate interoperable healthcare. Our solutions allow organizations to consistently and efficiently manage the flow of health information by:

- Managing patient identity and communicating with client registries
- Sharing clinical data through provincial data domains
- Sending reports and results electronically to physician EMR systems.

Providing Services to Physicians

Physician offices using Practice Management systems can exchange data using a variety of interoperable solutions offered by MEDITECH. One of those solutions, specifically designed to address "one-to-many" interface scenarios, is Data Express, an offering collaboratively developed by MEDITECH and Forward Advantage. Designed for rapid deployment and easy maintenance, Data Express is an interface suite which communicates HL7 results output from MEDITECH's Laboratory, Imaging and Therapeutic Services, and Departmental solutions to physician practices in multiple formats, via a variety of transport options. Building on our success with results reporting, MEDITECH and Forward Advantage also receive patient orders from physician practices and communicate those orders into the MEDITECH system.



e-Prescribing and Medication Reconciliation

MEDITECH offers medication reconciliation at each transition among healthcare settings. Clinicians can review a list of medications a patient is currently taking when the patient enters the hospital, ensuring a complete history. Once the patient is admitted, providers can again review ambulatory medications, including those dispensed in the Emergency Department, and select which ones to convert to inpatient medications. Likewise, when a patient is discharged, the physician can select which inpatient medications and original ambulatory prescriptions to convert to a new set of ambulatory prescriptions.

Continuity of Care Documents (CCDs)

MEDITECH was the first vendor to successfully support a project utilizing Continuity of Care Documents (CCDs), when it piloted a project connecting a Massachusetts community hospital with five community medical groups. Participants in this project exchange care summaries, based on industry-standard protocols. The ability to exchange CCDs is inherent within our 6.0 and 5.6 applications.

Health Information Exchange (HIEs)

MEDITECH supports both centralized and decentralized clinical data sharing models. In a centralized model, the data sharing and exchange of electronic information among participants is conducted through a centralized data repository. All providers

or institutions send their data to a central repository or data domain, and view information as needed through external portals or other forms of data delivery, such as importing data (e.g., medical summaries) back into the Electronic Medical Record (EMR).

In a decentralized or federated model of health information exchange, data remains at the point of service and is only exchanged when requested, such as when the patient presents for care and is registered in the facility providing the care. Utilizing industry standards, these independent databases can reference where external data lives via a Record Locator Service (RLS) or Client Registry (CR) to coordinate patient identification and the location of patient information.

The decentralized model uses emerging Health Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) standards for exchanging information between acute care hospitals using MEDITECH's EHR and physician practices. These standards include the HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) and the Care Record Summary (CRS)/CCD for defining message content.



Communicating with Public Health Agencies

MEDITECH is involved in several initiatives to help customers automate biosurveillance and public health reporting. We will continue to participate and assist in defining the standards needed for more advanced automated reporting in this area. The MEDITECH Emergency Department Management (EDM) and inpatient applications already yield data that supports Canada's surveillance efforts. Our Public Health and Biosurveillance solutions extend these capabilities with ADT interfaces to send real-time or batch disease and diagnosis information to public health agencies.

Helping Customers Achieve their Interoperable Goals

MEDITECH is dedicated to helping you achieve your national, jurisdictional, and local interoperable goals, including reporting quality and data, as supported by the pan-Canadian infrastructure and standards put forth by Infoway and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). Since data sharing implementations are highly individualized, MEDITECH will work with you to fully understand your needs and tailor interoperability interface suites accordingly. The process begins with a thorough analysis and understanding of your goals and objectives. Please contact your MEDITECH sales representative if you would like to learn more.