

Welcome Message

Dr WONG Chun-por, Co-chairman, Executive Committee

The month of June 2009 is a busy month and also a crucial time in the development of eHealth in Hong Kong. At the end of the month, we shall have debates in the Finance Committee and the LegCo to determine the funding and strategies of the eHealth directions in Hong Kong. We are eager to collect any opinion and comments towards the development in eHealth locally and send to the Government for considerations. Please share your views by any means to us or the Food and Health Bureau as soon as possible. The setting up of the Government EHR Office is an important milestone in the history of eHealth development, and we should be able to see its birth very soon.

In the meantime, we are also busy in building the Validation Platform for electronic health records standardization for our 9 stakeholders. Progress has been very satisfactory, thanks to the overwhelming and heartfelt supports rendered from all the stakeholders. They include the Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Medical Association, Hong Kong Doctors Union, St Teresa's Hospital, Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital, Evangel Hospital, St Paul's Hospital, Quality Healthcare and Dr Vio's & Partners. We are glad that the Department of Health team will also join the bandwagon in the coming month. Main programming works are almost finished and we are entering the User Acceptance Test for Phase I. The territory-wide data standards have been published in its second draft

and being enriched to a very satisfactory status by now. We are glad to witness the tremendous progress we have made and I must thank all the stakeholders for their unfailing supports.

Other activities of the Consortium include an email and letter survey on the Use of IT in Private Medical Practitioners. We have sent out more than 10,000 letters to all doctors and thousands of emails for a better understanding of the penetration of IT in private clinics. We are collating the results of the survey. This would certainly be a very useful tip for the authority to consider in their development works. A training course for Chinese Medicine Practitioners are also under development by iProA with avid help from the Consortium and this will further enrich the scope of the eHealth penetration in Hong Kong.

In summary, this month would be an exciting month for us. We shall witness more fruits and achievements after serving our efforts. Finally, may I appeal to all of you to support the coming eHealth Forum which will be held on October 8-9 at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. It will be a huge conference with an expected 800 participants and dozens of solution and hardware vendors jointly share the experience and expectations. Details may be found in our web and www.ehealthforum2009.org.

eHealth Forum 2009

Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, October 8–9, 2009

Registration for eHealth Forum 2009 is now open. To register and take advantage of early bird and group registration discounts, complete the [online registration form](#).

During registration, you will ask to create a username and password. This will provide access to your registration record, so you can make updates as needed.

The [call for abstracts](#) is now open, and we encourage you to read on and see how you can contribute to the success of the eHealth Forum 2009. The deadline is July 31, 2009 (17:00 Hong Kong Time).

Validation Platform

User Acceptance Test Briefing Session



UAT Briefing on June 3

User Acceptance Test (UAT) is to confirm the system is suitable, and verify the delivered software matches user requirements. The briefing session was held on June 3, 2009 at PCCW.

The feedback from the stakeholders was a valuable contribution in evaluating the initial release and improving the system. Each port deployment will consist of detailed briefings and training.

The User Training provides basic introduction, background information to step-by-step manipulation with hands-on exercises. It will be conducted from June 24 – 26. The participants for the classes will be trained how to access the eHRVP System. Users will evaluate the system during UAT as they complete training.

REGISTER NOW

Deadline for
✓ Early Bird Registration Discounts
and
✓ Abstract Submission
is

July 31, 2009



“Electronic Health Record Sharing System from a Privacy Perspective”

A Public Forum, June 12, 2009

On June 12, Dr N.T. Cheung and Dr Elizabeth Quat have given their speeches in the public forum “**Electronic Health Record Sharing System from a Privacy Perspective**” (as part of the 31st Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities (APPA) meeting), hosted by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data Hong Kong. The forum was attended by around 200 interested persons.



Dr N.T. Cheung shared the successful story of the Hospital Authority’s Clinical Management System (CMS), Public-Private Interface – Electronic Patient Record Sharing Pilot Project (PPI-ePR) and the Government’s roadmap for a Territory Wide eHealth Record Sharing System. Major future works, enhancing the protection of patient data security, have also been shared with the audience.

*“Dr Obama” aims to treat US
Economy... \$19 billion for Health IT*

Dr Elizabeth Quat focused on “**Electronic Health Record Data Security**”. She presented a four-pronged approach to enhance data security in the healthcare sector, namely: Security Policy, Security Audit, Privacy and Data Protection Technologies (Multi-factor Authentication), and Human Issues, in view of the present situation of patient data breaches in Hong Kong and worldwide.



Click [here](#) for the presentation by Dr NT Cheung and [here](#) for that by Dr Elizabeth Quat.

*“eHealth Data Security
Much more than an IT project...”*

IT Training for Chinese Medicine Practitioners



On March 23 2009, the Internet Professional Association ([iProA](#)) has been awarded by OGCIO the project, *2008/09 Sector-Specific IT Training Programme (SSP) for Chinese Medicine Practitioners (CMP)*, to organize a series of eHealth training programs and workshops for CMPs. To ensure the successful the implementation of this project, iProA has sought the support of eHealth Consortium Limited (eHCL).

The programs will be organized with the help of Sin-Hua Herbalists' and Herb Dealers' Promotion Society Ltd. (新華中醫中藥促進會), Association of Hong Kong & Kowloon Practitioners of Chinese Medicine Ltd. (港九中醫師公會) and Hong Kong Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners Association Ltd. (香港註冊中醫學會) and aims at training up existing CMPs so that they would acquire basic IT knowledge (through the Basic Level of Training Program), and broader view and more in-depth idea about eHealth, understand its necessity and benefits (through the Advanced Level of Training Program), and become pioneers/leaders to help driving its implementation in the specific sector of CMP. The target is to train up 300 practitioners in the Basic Level, and 150 in the Advanced Level.

In summary, by launching these training programs, it can be expected to help the CMPs by:

1. Uplifting their IT capability and improving their operation efficiency and business sustainability
2. Enhancing their competitiveness in facing the future trend of applying IT and eHealth Record, and,
3. Raising their service quality

In June's time, we have interviewed 5 CMPs and attended a computer training course hosted by the Hong Kong Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioners Association Ltd. (see photo below), so as to gather, from CMPs directly, the requirements and expectations for the pace and contents of the training courses that we are about to organize.

It was also planned that a focus group will be held to fine-tune the contents of the proposed training courses to best-fit the need of our targeted audience.



The 5th Annual World Health Care Congress

Brussels, 13–14 May 2009

[Dr Winnie Tang](#), CEO of ESRI China (HK), as well as Chairperson of eHealth Consortium, was invited as Speaker at the 5th Annual World Health Care Congress held in Brussels on May 13–14, 2009.

As the leading European forum on health care business innovation, the 5th Annual World Health Care Congress convened over 600 international health leaders and government officials to share business cases, best-practices and successful initiatives to address current challenges facing Europe. The 2009 Congress highlighted leading global strategies for performance management, innovations in health care technology, chronic disease management and health care financing. Joined participating thought leaders including: health ministers, leading government officials, hospital directors, IT innovators, decision makers from public and private insurance funds, pharmaceutical and medical device companies, and health care industry suppliers.



Mr. G Grosso (University of Catania), Dr Winnie Tang and Dr Z Guldem Okem (Centre for European Policy Studies)



Dr Winnie Tang delivered her presentation at the Congress



Dr Winnie Tang at the panel discussion

Dr Tang spoke on the topic "Hong Kong eHealth Development – from SARS to now, and tomorrow", where she shared with the audience the setting up of eHealth Consortium (eHC) in 2005 with the prime objective to enhance the quality of health care services through the application of ICT in Hong Kong. eHC received tremendous support from the government in the setting up of a territory-wide electronic health records (eHR) system, and is now working on building a platform to validate various healthcare institutions' eHR conformity to an ultimate standard, paving the road for future inter-changeability of eHR among them. Dr Tang found the insightful exchanges with the renowned international speakers, experts and participants most inspiring.

CHINC 2009

Nanjing, May 22 - 25, 2009

The China Hospital Information Network Conference (CHINC) on May 22–25, 2009, jointly organized by the National Institute of Hospital Administration (NIHA) and the China Hospital Information Management Association (CHIMA), was a valuable opportunity for experienced hospital managers, IT professionals and subject experts to share and exchange their knowledge through workshops, paper presentations, demonstrations and panel discussions.



Opening Ceremony

[Dr Winnie Tang](#)'s paper, titled “正走向全民的「电子健康记录互通平台」” (“Towards a Territory-wide eHR Sharing System – the Public-Private Partnership Experience in HK”) depicts the drivers, challenges and roadmap of developing a territory-wide eHR Sharing System, and the establishment, role and achievements of the eHealth Consortium in improving Hong Kong's healthcare system. The latest pilot projects, such as the Validation Platform sponsored by Food and Health Bureau



A Pre-Conference Workshop

(FHB) and Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), events such as eHealth Forum 2009 and initiatives of the Consortium were also shared.

eHealth Forum 2009 to be held in Hong Kong on October 8–9, themed “We Care, We Share: Creating Our Healthcare Future”, seeks to address the key issues reached among healthcare professionals from both the public and private sectors now and on the road towards a successful implementation of eHR. Invitations for the major international event have been extended to policy makers, key executives from relevant government departments, agencies and major corporations of healthcare and ICT industries, as well as healthcare workers in private and public sectors, academics, researchers, representatives of professional organizations from related industries. For more details about the Forum, please visit www.ehealthforum2009.org or email info@ehealthforum2009.org.

“Towards a Territory-wide eHR Sharing System – the Public-Private Partnership Experience in HK”

Meet the Experts – The Future of eHR

Hospital Authority, May 2, 2009

The informatics symposium “**Meet the Experts: The Future of eHR**”, moderated by Dr C.P. Wong, was jointly hosted by the Hong Kong Society of Medical Informatics Ltd. and Hong Kong Hospital Authority on May 2. The event was attended by more than 200 medical professionals in the Lecture Theatre of Hospital Authority Building

Dr N.T. Cheung gave a speech about “**The Future of Informatics in Hong Kong**” and shared with the audience the successful story of the Hospital Authority’s Clinical Management System (CMS), with focus on its history, project size and scale, system architecture and other major challenges. In addition, the experience consolidated after the pilot-run of Public-Private Interface – Electronic Patient Record Sharing Pilot Project (PPI-ePR) and the implementation roadmap of the Government’s Territory Wide eHealth Record Sharing System have also been welcomed by the audience.



Prof Edward H. Shortliffe, the President and CEO Design of the American Medical Informatics Association



Dr NT Cheung gave a speech about “The Future of Informatics in Hong Kong”.



Prof Vimla Patel, Prof and Vice-Chair of the Arizona State University's Department of Biomedical Informatics.



(Left to Right) Dr CP Wong, Dr NT Cheung Prof Vimla Patel, Prof Edward H. Shortliffe

15th GS1 Healthcare Conference

Raising the bar on patient safety and efficiency

Security, traceability and efficiency in healthcare are currently at the forefront of government regulations and industry concerns around the world. As a result, numerous, and often irreconcilable solutions are being (or have already been) proposed to the national and international supply chain stakeholders. The cost and the inefficiency of diverse government regulations, proprietary service offerings and incompatible solutions to all stakeholders has called for defining and adopting global and open standards.

Organizer: GS1 Healthcare

Date: October 6–8, 2009

Venue: Hospital Authority Building

3-day conference topics include:

- Regulatory developments on automatic identification, traceability and electronic product catalogues
- Patient safety initiatives to secure the healthcare supply chain up to the patient
- Healthcare supply chain efficiency improvements
- Standardization & global harmonization

For questions, please contact Nadège Mullier, GS1 Global Office at nadege.mullier@gs1.org or Eric Chow, GS1 Hong Kong at ericchow@gs1hk.org.

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**We cordially invite your participation
in the development of eHealth by
joining the Consortium Ltd as a
Member Organization**

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