

Preparing for 'Choose and Book' compliance by July CareNotes CRS selected for NPfIT compliance programme



THE market-leading CareNotes care record system has been selected to be included in the National Programme for IT (NPfIT) compliance programme.

This marks a significant development for the CareNotes system that is already used by thousands of NHS staff working within mental health care.

Strand Technology, which has developed CareNotes, is now preparing to gain NPfIT "Choose and Book" compliance by July 2005. Chris Tyler, Strand Technology's Technical Director, welcomed the news, saying: "This is an extremely important step forward for both Strand and existing CareNotes Trusts. Chris added: "It

**Report by
NICOLA DUFTY**

reinforces CareNotes as a major player in mental health computer systems and positions CareNotes as a provider of eBooking functionality."

Compliance will be in two stages: Firstly NPfIT testing

Left to right: Graham Phillips, Chris Tyler and David Hannam, directors of Strand Technology.



the CareNotes system to ensure it meets connectivity standards. Then implementing eBooking by a Trust using CareNotes connected to the spine and the choose and book services in a live environment.

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Strand Technology Ltd

Operations
Xpdia, Cinnamon Park
Warrington
WA2 0XP

Tel: 0845 66 079 67
Fax: 0845 66 079 69

Administration
Lea Hall, Wimboldsley
Cheshire
CW10 0LL

No smoke or mirrors – just something that works!

**Report by
MHARI OAKES**

WHEN Strand Technology showcased their latest version of CareNotes – a pioneering patient record system – they proved that their system is the 'real thing.' For many NHS Trusts worry that demonstrations of new healthcare

software are largely an 'illusion' – designed for presentation purposes rather than for use in the 'real world.' But CareNotes was able to withstand the ultimate testing ground.

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Coping with complex care? *We have the solution*

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Strand Technology already has 12 NHS Trusts across the UK using its CareNotes system.

David Hannam, a former nurse who is now Sales Director for Strand Technology, said: "The mental health care sector requires a highly-specialist computerised record system to cope with the demands of complex care – often involving multiple agencies such as community carers, hospitals and social workers.

"But mental health care is not always at the front of the queue when it comes to resources – something that has taken its toll at a time when Trusts are under increasing pressure to provide increased administration and records.

"The CareNotes system offers Trusts an eGif compliant Microsoft front end – and now with the added weight of the NPfIT compliance programme, it provides an ideal interim solution that will meet Trusts' administrative and clinical needs."

● From page one

David Hannam, Sales Director of Strand Technology, explained: "I had a meeting arranged with a London based trust. The demonstration was due to be held in central London. At the last minute the Trust needed to change venue so I presented CareNotes live on a tablet PC connected to the web using a wireless network accessing servers back at our head office in Cheshire. You can only do this with a product that works – it must be tried, tested and well established.

"We were able to prove that, if I was an NHS employee out on the road, the system would have worked effectively, flexibly and without any hitches.

"This is really important in the NHS because many people have been dis-illusioned by software that is 'all smoke and mirrors.'"

NHS Trusts look to adopt best practice

Success for the Patient Journey electronic version

SOUTH London & Maudsley NHS Trust (SLAM) – one of Europe's most prestigious mental health care organisations – has created a new clinical process, "The Patient Journey" based on best practice within the organisation's teams and knowledge gained from its CCS (Current Clinical Summary) software development.

Teaming up with Strand Technology has enabled SLAM to access the power of market-leading CareNotes care record solution to produce an electronic version of the advanced Patient Journey clinical process.

Graham Phillips, Managing Director of Strand Technology, said: "South London and Maudsley NHS Trust, is an important organisation to be working with and the project has generated a huge amount of interest from other

Report by NICOLA DUFTY

mental health NHS Trusts looking to adopt best practice."

In a recent report on the project's clinical guidelines, David Roy, Medical Director for South London and Maudsley NHS Trust, wrote: "The Patient Journey project is the culmination of two years' effort by a dedicated group of health and social care professionals and support ICT staff.



"They have consulted widely, taken advice from experts and piloted sections of the process within clinical teams at the 'coal face'.

"The apparently obvious benefits of an electronic clinical information system are shrouded in myth as so few of these have been realised over the years.

"However, technology is now so improved that the opportunities for success are less elusive than they have ever been."

All aboard for EPR training

CHESHIRE and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust has begun using the CareNotes Mental Health Electronic Patient Record system.

Staff have been trained at a series of roadshows on a specially-equipped bus.

The NHS Trust has signed a five-year 2,500 user agreement with Strand Technology.



Staff at Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust pictured during a training session before the introduction of CareNotes.

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