DHSS eXpresso

volume 2, issue 5

Medical Logistics RFID Pilot

Featured in HIMSS eSeminar

More than 400 people participated in COL Christopher Harrington's one-hour eSeminar Feb. 26 on the military health system's pilot project using radio frequency identification (RFID) for medical logistics. The eSeminar was sponsored by Government Health IT News and the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS).

COL Harrington, DHSS Deputy Program Manager for Medical Logistics, described the status, goals, technology components and lessons learned to date in his division's planned deployment of RFID. The pilot was launched in August 2008 and will be deployed at three Washington, D.C.-area military health care facilities: the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda; DeWitt Army Community Hospital, Ft. Belvoir, and Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews AFB.

The pilot is being conducted as part of the Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support (DMLSS) system. DMLSS implements just-in-time logistics and delivers an automated, comprehensive range of materiel, equipment, and facilities management information systems for the military health system.

The presentation, "Military Health's Electronic Supply Chain: Using RFID and Automatic Identification Technologies to Manage the World's Largest Healthcare System," was targeted to defense medical logistics users across the armed services, health care industry suppliers serving the military health system and Veterans Health Administration, and state and local government health care logistics project managers. Moderating the discussion was Government Health IT editor-in-chief Paul McCloskey who described the military health system as, "the largest direct provider of health care services in the world." COL Harrington's presentation can be viewed by clicking onto this link: http://w.on24.com/r.htm?e=135716&s=1&k=01341A911A334AC35D5E6838FA9D3821. This link will remain available until August 27, 2009.

An RFID tag is readable while a crumbled barcode is not.

Clinical Data Mart

Releases Diabetes Provider Report

On Feb. 20, the Clinical Data Mart (CDM) team released a diabetes provider report that provides a comprehensive view of key diabetes indicators so that AHLTA providers can easily monitor and track individual patients' progress and compliance with diabetes care standards. On Feb. 20, nearly 100 AHLTA clinicians attended a DHSS Webinar on these new diabetes provider reports.

The CDM team was tasked with creating provider panel reports CDM to offer a means for providers to see a list of applicable patients with key information and status related to diabetes. The diabetes report provides a list page of applicable diabetic patients from which a CDM user can click onto a patient to go into a detail report with specific information about that patient's diabetes diagnosis. For each identified patient, the panel report displays a summary page of key information as well as individual pages for each type of data (e.g. appointments, vitals, diagnoses, labs, procedures, problem list, counseling, medications, immunizations, etc.).

The report shows trending graphs for several vital sign and lab measures so providers can quickly review and assess a patient's current status related to diabetes. The report has alerters to show a patient's status related to the frequency and value for each identified measure. For example, a low-density lipoprotein (LDL) would show red if it is less than or equal to 100 or if the last LDL test was done more than a year ago.

The CDM team used a Tri-Service clinical team to develop the diabetes report using the 2003 Department of Defense and Veterans Health Administration (DoD/VHA) clinical practice guidelines. "This report shows the power of the CDM for clinical data reporting from AHLTA," said CDR James Ellzy of the Clinical Measures Steering Committee. "We look forward to continuing to work with the services to refine and improve CDM's reporting capabilities."

CDM is the clinical reporting tool for AHLTA, the military's electronic health record. CDM allows analysts and clinicians to measure, analyze, and manage performance of direct patient care, wellness, disease prevention, and disease management. It is used to securely report actionable clinical data for the military health system and provides access to clinical patient data from AHLTA's Clinical Data Repository, the global storehouse of direct care health records for the Department of Defense.

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Releases Diabetes Provider Report

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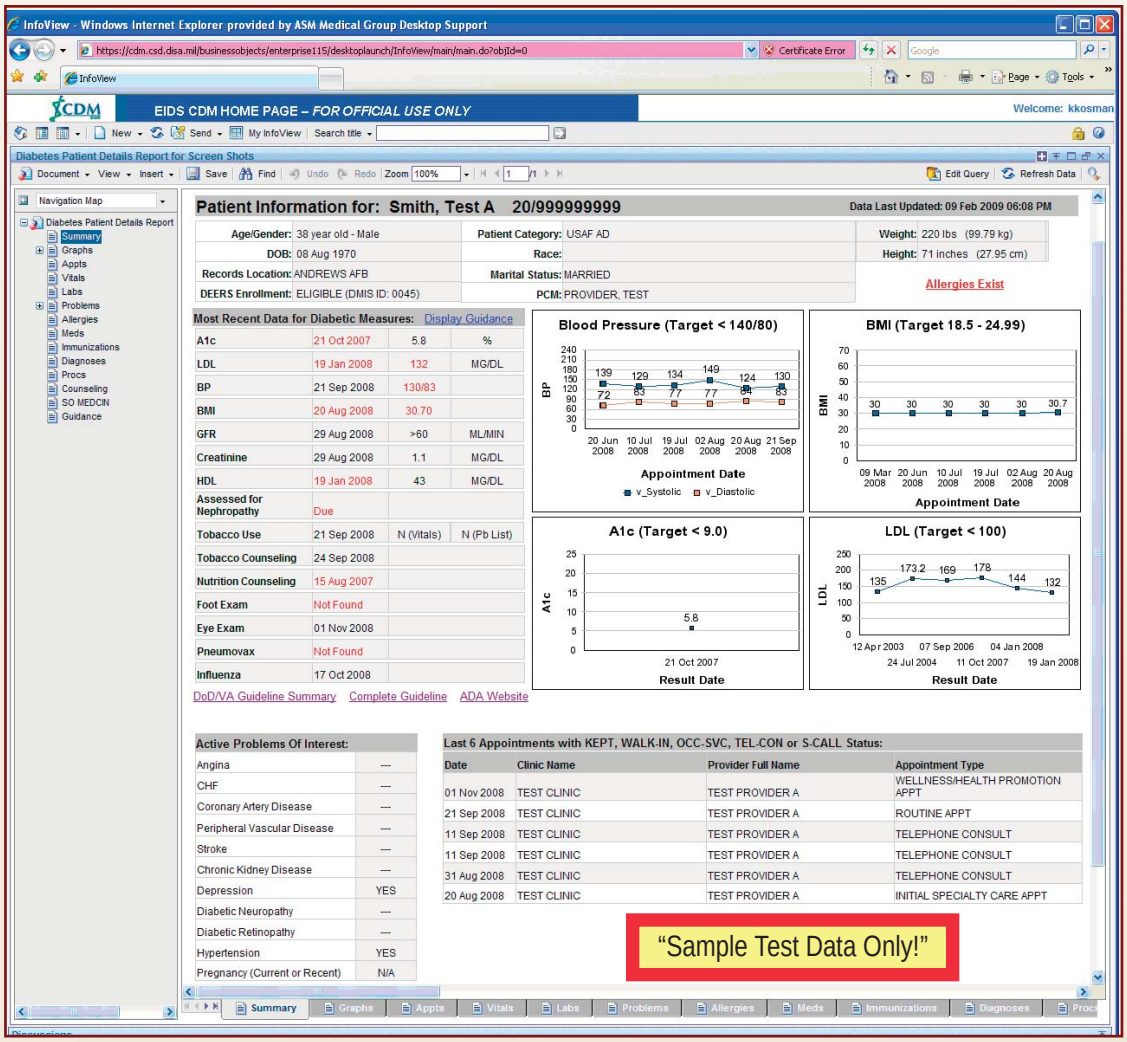

This summary page includes demographic data, information on height and weight, allergies indicator, most recent data for identified diabetic measures, key trending graphs, active problems of interest, and recent appointments. Medications will be added to this page next. Providers can tab through the summary panel for in-depth views of appointments, vitals, labs, problems, allergies, medications, immunizations, diagnoses, and next steps.

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Public Key Enforcement Implemented

for DHSS Web Applications

To comply with the DoD-mandate to enforce the use of DoD-approved Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) certificates for user identity authentication, DHSS has completed implementing Public Key (PK) Enforcement for 16 DHSS Web-based applications or tools. Access to these applications or tools now requires users to have a valid DoD-issued Common Access Card (CAC) and Personal Identification Number (PIN).

The following are now CAC-enforced: Defense Occupational and Environmental Health Readiness System (DOEHRS) Data Repository, Defense Medical Human Resource System-internet, ESSENCE Medical Surveillance, Blades Operations Center (BOC) Oracle Enterprise Manager, BOC Dashboard, BOC Customer Information Office, MHS Insight, Managed Care Forecasting and Analysis System, Protected Health Information Management Tool, Prospective Payment System, EIDS Web Portal, Centralized Credentials Quality Assurance System, RITPO Web site, Serena TeamTrack, Expense Assignment System Version 4, and DOEHRS-Industrial Hygiene.

For additional information or assistance regarding PKI enforcement, please contact the MHS Help Desk at 1-800-600-9332.

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