



A Case Study on the Adoption of SNOMED CT within University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay in the UK

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Audience

This presentation is aimed at anyone involved in or supporting implementations including those involved in training, roll-out planning and configuration, as well as anyone about to procure/specify an EPR solution.

Objectives

The CSC product Lorenzo was first implemented at University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay in 2008 and is now widely used with clinicians entering SNOMED CT direct into the EPR; clinical benefits supporting patient care are starting to be realised and this presentation provides early insight into a case study under development.

Abstract

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SNOMED CT is recognised within the UK government strategy 'The Power of Information' as the terminology for the NHS. Nevertheless trusts are responsible for their own systems to support their local operations and are required to provide significant numbers of national data returns. Maintaining such data returns to the wide range of organisations, and adopting SNOMED CT provides a number of challenges. The adoption of SNOMED CT has been cited in the UK press as one of three main challenges for implementing an EPR, yet in reality clinicians who are bought into recording in a structured language at the clinical point of contact have had few issues that have not been quickly resolved.

Lorenzo is one of the national products implemented within the UK National Programme and was developed as a new product to the UK EPR market. The specification required delivery of a solution that supported SNOMED CT. One of the earlier adopter sites for Lorenzo is University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay (UHMB).

Clinicians at UHMB have been using SNOMED CT for recording problems since 2008. There has been a recent implementation of 'To Take Out' and Outpatient Prescribing, plus a forthcoming implementation of Inpatient Prescribing and Medication Administration. Clinicians are also using SNOMED CT for recording patient allergies and this is utilised to support prescribing decision support. Key benefits in prescribing relate to having the patient history available for viewing, thus supporting safer prescribing.

This presentation will share the experiences from this implementation bringing together the perspectives of the three authors of this presentation: the hospital, the supplier, and the national release centre.

References

1. University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust: <http://www.uhmb.nhs.uk/>
2. UK Terminology Centre: <http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/data/uktc>
3. CSC: <http://www.csc.com/>