Alberta Health is increasing the number of community data sources that provide information to Alberta's electronic health record (Alberta Netcare) through the community information integration (CII) initiative.

It is estimated that 70 to 80% of health services are delivered in community clinic settings. Currently, there are no mechanisms in place to upload this information into Alberta Netcare and no ability for Alberta Health to use this information for health systems planning or quality improvement efforts. The CII project offers a solution.

As of June 2017, Healthquest (Microquest) is the first electronic medical record (EMR) system linked to Alberta Netcare. Med Access, Wolf and PS Suite (TELUS) will follow in November 2017.

The first phase of CII will be a limited production roll out (LPR) with a small sub-set of clinics that host these EMRs.

What is the CII clinic selection process?

Alberta Health, approved EMR vendors, the Alberta Medical Association (AMA), the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) and the Primary Care Network (PCN) Evolution team are collaborating to identify suitable clinics for the LPR.

- First priority will be given to clinics that are nominated by the partners listed above

- Second priority will be given to clinics that nominate themselves

- Third priority will be given to eligible clinics that are approached to participate from the potential LPR clinic list developed by the Vendor and the eHealth Support Services team

What is the CII clinic participation confirmation process?

The LPR confirmation process is based on eligibility, willingness and readiness characteristics defined in Table A below. When all selection criteria are met, LPR participation is confirmed, otherwise clinics will be placed on the general production roll out (GPR) list.

Table A LPR Selection Criteria

Clinic Eligibility	Clinic is willing to	Clinic is ready when
• Current Alberta Netcare Portal user • EMR Vendor is conformed to CII • All custodians in clinic willing to participate in LPR with same EMR • Family physicians, specialists and nurse practitioners practicing in the clinic • Catchment/geographic area	• Assign a site liaison to: – manage readiness requirements – assist with CII data quality testing – review/test relevant training tools for CII – coordinate awareness and training for CII – support issue management • Use the latest version of their EMR vendor software • Participate in LPR status meetings • Participate in evaluation activities • Sign LPR participation agreement	• CII PIA endorsement signed by custodian(s) • EMR PIA is accepted by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) and reflects current environment • Custodians have a Health Information Act (HIA) compliant Information Management Agreement (IMA) with their EMR Vendor • Provincial Organizational Readiness Assessment (pORA) is approved by Alberta Health and reflects current IT environment • EMR vendor software meets CII technical requirements

Why do all Custodians need to be willing to participate in the LPR?

All Custodians in the clinic need to be willing to participate, as all clinics' EMR data will go up in one nightly automated feed. There is no ability to isolate Custodian EMR data. If a new Custodian joins the clinic, and does not want to participate in CII, at that point the clinic would need to opt out of the LPR.

If a Locum Physician joins the CII clinic and does not want to participate in CII, there is no impact on the LPR, as the Locum Physician is not considered a clinic custodian and is not the primary care provider for patients of that clinic. It will be up to the Clinic Custodian(s) to determine if they will continue to participate in the LPR.

Why do all CII clinic Custodians need to be on the same EMR?

To initiate and execute the LPR as efficiently as possible, the project scope outlines one automated, nightly clinic data submission from CII conformed EMRs.

Do clinics need to revise their EMR PIA to participate in the CII project?

Alberta Health is preparing a PIA that will cover changes made to clinic EMR systems to accommodate disclosure of health information to CII. A synopsis of the Alberta Health PIA will be provided to custodians along with an endorsement letter that states that the custodian has been made aware of the changes to his/her EMR in support of the data extraction process. The endorsement letter indicates to the Office of Information and Privacy Commissioner that the physician/custodian's EMR and the PIA covering it are amended and that the Alberta Health PIA reflects these changes and the security measures taken to protect health information as a result of the changes.

The **clinic is required** to ensure all other privacy and security documentation as listed in **Table A** above are up to date. The CII implementation lead will work with clinics to confirm documentation. For further information, please contact the eHealth Support Services (eHSS) Team.

Phone: 1-855-643-8649 (Toll Free)

Email: ehealthsupport@cgi.com

Why do CII clinics need to be willing to participate in LPR status meetings?

Clinic participation by the site liaison in the status meetings is the most efficient way to keep everyone on the same page and resolve issues immediately. This is also an opportunity for clinics to share ideas and provide feedback on what aspects of the LPR could change or adapt to increase general production roll out success.

What is an LPR participation agreement and why do CII clinics need one?

An LPR participation agreement is established between participating CII clinics and Alberta Health to ensure LPR processes, procedures, and findings remain confidential. These processes will be continually tested and validated before the general production roll out. The agreement also covers the clinic's acceptance to use the latest version of their EMR vendor's software. Further refinements will be made to both the EMR extraction process and the data integration process as health information is moved into Alberta Netcare and the results of the LPR are evaluated.

If a community clinic wants to participate, what is involved?

To participate, your clinic needs to be on Alberta Netcare already and have an EMR privacy impact assessment (PIA) and provincial Organizational Readiness Assessment (pORA) that reflects the current environment. Signing up is simple.

For further information, please visit the Alberta Netcare website (http://www.albertanetcare.ca/Projects.htm) or contact us at:

eHealth Support Services (eHSS) Team

1-855-643-8649 (Toll Free)

Hours of Operation: 7am - 7pm (Mon-Fri)

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