



# E-health boost for chronic disease care

Karen Dearne | September 04, 2009

Font Size: Print Page:

**WIDE-RANGING team care of patients with complex medical needs may finally be possible with the launch of a web-based platform linking an individual's GP with allied providers for co-ordinated management of personal treatment plans.**

Communications Minister Stephen Conroy said the Chronic Disease Management Network (CDM-Net) could slash the time for creating and managing personal care plans from hours to a matter of minutes, offering "great opportunities for more efficient and targeted treatment".

Developed by Precedence Health Care and a consortium of Victorian healthcare services, universities and IT suppliers, CDM-Net is the result of a \$2.2 million Clever Networks grant to monitor and support the care of patients with diabetes over a broadband network.

Following successful trials in the Geelong area and the Eastern Goldfields region in Western Australia, Precedence is now starting a national rollout of CDM-Net and its core Chronic Disease Management Service (CDMS).

Precedence chief executive Michael Georgeff said chronic disease was responsible for 70 per cent of the nation's healthcare costs, at around \$60 billion a year.

"While governments offer incentives to GPs to create care plans for patients and share them with allied health providers, currently these are paper-based and highly time-consuming," said Professor Georgeff who maintains that only about 25 per cent of patients who should be in care plans are on them and that those are rarely followed up properly.

"CDMS basically uses the web and our intelligent software to automate a number of tasks, such as populating an electronic health record and generating a treatment plan using best-practice guidelines.

"The doctor shares this information with other team members, such as pharmacists, diabetes educators and podiatrists, and in turn they contribute their observations so there is ongoing collaboration and much more effective care for the individual patient."

Professor Georgeff said the system was designed to be highly scalable, and solved the problem of limited point-to-point connectivity in the health sector.

"Our approach is to roll-out incrementally, so we will take it region by region and expand our resources in parallel with adoption," he said. "We're just beginning a roll-out in Perth and we're doing a trial in South Australia; we hope to start trials in Queensland and Tasmania soon."

Senator Conroy said CDM-Net "should be viewed as a great example of the type of scalable solutions we are thinking of to support service development" in regional and remote areas.

"This highlights the very real capacity for emerging technology and broadband to change the way we think about healthcare," he said.

Share This Article Email To A Friend

From here you can use the Social Web links to save E-health boost for chronic disease care to a social bookmarking site.

del.icio.us	Digg it	Furl	Netscape	Yahoo MyWeb
StumbleUpon	Google	Technorati	BlinkList	Newsvine
ma.gnolia	reddit	Windows Live	Tailrank	Slashdot

## Ads by Google™

### ahm Health Insurance

One Month's Free Health Insurance. Hurry Offer Must End 13 September.  
www.ahm.com.au/Second-Month-Free

### Healthcare Conference

Attend The Latest Healthcare Summit, Book Online To Save & Learn  
www.IIR.com.au

### Share Trading Seminar

Join us at our Free Investment Seminar. Over 45,000 others have.  
www.SITM.com.au/RegisterOnline

## LATEST TECHNOLOGY NEWS

- > Huawei in ASIO's net
- > Migrants to get market rates
- > ABC wants free NBN content
- > E-health boost for chronic disease care
- > Virgin twitters on about fare wars
- > Facebook can't touch us: uSocial

## RSS FEEDS

- |              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| IT News      | Most Read |
| IT Business  | Reviews   |
| Double Click | Exec Tech |
| Defrag       |           |

More Feeds | What is this? >>