



ABSTRACT:

STREAM: NURSES AND E-HEALTH

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HInext Inc. and HOBIC

New Technology, Collaborative Working Relationships and Standardized Assessment Profiles: Engaging Home Care with the HOBIC Program

To date, Health Outcomes for Better Information and Care (HOBIC) has been implemented in over 130 sites inclusive of Acute Care, Complex Continuing Care and Long Term Care sectors. This presentation provided a synopsis of the work and strategies to bring the HOBIC program to the Home Care sector.

In early spring of 2009, an invitation was extended to five National Home Care Nursing Provider Agencies that provide professional nursing services in the Ontario Home Care sector. As in other healthcare sectors, the expectation was that nursing sensitive outcome measures be captured electronically at point of care. Although not dissimilar to other sectors, the practical application of building electronic capacity in the HC sector presented its own unique challenges.

Included were: how to integrate the HOBIC measures into pre-existing clin-doc platforms; the need for standardized assessment profiles for a web-based application option as a precursor to a fully electronic system; and transmission dead zones.

In spite of the competitive nature of this sector, all five participants eagerly agreed and worked tirelessly to build the admission and discharge assessment profiles, and collectively considered the pros and cons of technology options such as hand held devices.

This presentation described the model that is being deployed in the home care sector with a focus on the lessons learned. As a result of this initiative a paradigm practice shift includes new technologies, collaborative working relationships and consensus building that created single admission and discharge assessment profiles.

BIO:

Helen Holmes, RN, MBA

Helen is a senior health care consultant currently working for HInext Inc. on implementation of the HOBIC program. HInext is the healthcare consulting and services company overseeing the technical implementation of HOBIC in Ontario including site integration and operations. Helen has over 20 years experience in the health care industry. Her professional experience combines clinical nursing, information systems implementation and hospital financial and business operations.

Elizabeth Krestick RN, BScN, MScN

Elizabeth Krestick is a regional coordinator for the Health Outcomes for Better Information and Care (HOBIC) program. Prior to this Elizabeth was employed by the provincial government funded homecare program, a part time faculty member in the Baccalaureate Nursing program at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario and a program coordinator for the Palliative Care program at a local Community College. Elizabeth has over 30 years experience in health care services. Her professional background lends a perspective of clinical, administrative and education nursing practice in hospital and community settings.

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