

CASE STUDY

INPS and First DataBank Europe work together to improve patient safety

INPS is the leading provider of Windows-based healthcare systems for general practice in the UK, with over 2,200 practices using its Vision system. The company supplies intuitive software for the primary care community, using the latest technology and knowledge of the healthcare environment to respond to customer requirements.

INPS has worked with First DataBank Europe (FDBE) for many years and its Vision system incorporates the Multilex Drug Data File (Multilex DDF) which provides active clinical decision support to help reduce patient medication errors.

PRIMARY CARE

“We wanted to provide Vision users with the best clinical decision support available, so we chose to work with the market leader, First DataBank Europe, due to their unrivalled knowledge and expertise in this area.”

Dr Mike Robinson,
Medical Director
INPS

History

INPS is part of the CEGEDIM group, a leading supplier of healthcare technology and information systems in Europe.

As well as consistently increasing the size of the Vision user base by around 200 practices each year, there is a growing number of practices choosing to use Vision within centrally hosted, managed service environments. Over one quarter of all Vision systems are now hosted, providing practices with better data security and reducing the practice-based IT administration burden.

In 1996 INPS identified a need to incorporate a drug knowledge base to provide active clinical checking against the patient medical record and started working with FDBE to integrate Multilex DDF, the UK's leading drug knowledge base, into the Vision system.

Multilex DDF provides comprehensive clinical and commercial information on more than 75,000 pharmaceutical products and packs and provides patient specific clinical decision support at the point of care.

Benefits

Vision is used by GPs, practice nurses and the wider healthcare team, including community nurses and other allied health professionals. Vision guidelines provide role-based views on the patient data, improving access to key information for the clinician by bringing important data to the user's attention.

When a GP opens a medical record within Vision in order to prescribe medication, the system accesses Multilex DDF which provides a comprehensive and updated picking list and carries out a number of patient specific clinical checks including drug-drug interactions, sensitivities, contraindications and precautions. Interactions are graded to show the severity of the alert and provide an instant reminder to the prescriber of any potential problems. These clinical checks are vital to support patient safety.

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First DataBank Europe is the UK's leading provider of drug knowledge bases and active clinical decision support software.

Through the effective implementation of our products, we enable safer prescribing and dispensing at the point of care.

NHS Connecting for Health has chosen First DataBank Europe to provide drug-related clinical decision support.

Dr Mike Robinson, Medical Director at INPS, said: "We wanted to provide Vision users with the best clinical decision support available, so we chose to work with the market leader, First DataBank Europe, due to their unrivalled knowledge and expertise in this area."

In addition to clinical decision support, FDBE also provides detailed medicines information including dosage instructions, administration advice and patient counselling information.

Vision users can rely on the fact that a large team of pharmacists, clinicians, clinical researchers, healthcare informaticists and software developers maintain the medicines information to ensure it is of the highest quality and at the forefront of product developments in the clinical decision support arena.

In addition, FDBE operates a Quality Management System that is certified to the latest ISO 9001:2000 standard and all operating procedures are audited on a regular basis.

Recent Developments

Vision is continually evolving, and although a significant proportion of the system's development is dedicated to national initiatives, INPS is currently working on a number of exciting new functions and facilities for practices.

Supporting National Standards

INPS works with a number of Local Service Providers and other strategic partners, including FDBE, to ensure Vision users remain well positioned within the NHS Connecting for Health National Programme for IT and other national healthcare programmes.

Through integration of FDBE's dm+d links, the Vision system meets all requirements for EPS Release 1, Choose and Book, GP2GP and the Summary Care Record. FDBE's products also supported INPS in gaining Scottish Enhanced Functionality accreditation.

Going Forward

INPS and FDBE are committed to working together to provide first-class support to Vision users and to deliver real patient safety benefits. The two organisations are constantly reviewing the additional benefits that FDBE can provide to Vision 3 and are also working closely together on developments in Vision 4.