eRx script exchange news

June 2009 — Australia's **first** nationwide e-prescription solution

WELCOME

Welcome to the June update on eRx Script Exchange, the first Australia-wide platform for electronic prescriptions, or e-scripts.

With eRx, GPs can now create e-prescriptions with confidence that patients can have their scripts safely and securely dispensed anywhere around Australia. eRx e-scripts are designed to improve patient care and safety, and to strengthen coordination and communication of patient care between health care providers.

IN FOCUS

Australian Friendly Societies come on board

The Australian Friendly Societies Pharmacies Association has funded half a million eRx transactions to ensure that its member pharmacies are able to use e-scripts as soon as possible.

Jim Howard, President of Australian Friendly Societies Pharmacies Association Inc, said, "There are obvious and immediate benefits flowing from e-scripts, both in terms of improved safety for patients, and to the health care profession. Making e-scripts available to our members is an important way of ensuring that we continue our tradition of providing the best possible health care and safety for communities all around Australia, and we are very keen to pass on the accuracy and efficiency benefits in dispensing as quickly as possible."

Kos Sclavos, National President, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, stated, "It is tremendous to see industry bodies Australia-wide working together to ensure that e-scripts are made available to the entire profession as quickly as possible. Together with the Guild's commitment of 10.6 million transactions, the AFSPA funding of 500,000 member transactions builds the total number of funded transactions to more than 11 million. This clearly demonstrates continued industry leadership in representing the needs of pharmacy and in achieving ongoing improvements in patient care."

The agreements demonstrate the depth of industry-wide commitment behind the eRx Script Exchange's national platform, according to Chairman, Graham Cunningham.

NEWS FLASH

150,000 scripts transmitted since launch in April, and more than 1500 contracted pharmacies and GPs to date

COMING SOON

From July, eRx Script Exchange will also provide a more efficient process for managing new and owing prescriptions, with the owing script and new script request functions. This will provide messaging capability between GPs and Pharmacies of new or owing scripts required, therefore removing the need for sending requests by fax or telephone.

Register at www.erx.com.au now and get in early to receive the benefits of e-prescriptions. eRx will then pass your registration details onto your software vendor who can progress your installation.

Getting involved

Register at www.erx.com.au to become involved or receive regular updates about eRx Script Exchange.

Pharmacy Expo

eRx e-prescriptions were showcased to hundreds of pharmacy owners and managers at Pharmacy Expo in Darling Harbour, Sydney this month, with demonstrations of all stages of the process, from prescribing through to dispensing and compliance notifications.

Pharmacist and eRx team member Jason Bratuskins describes the response as very positive. "All patient and script information is retrieved within seconds, exactly as intended by the GP, without any re-keying. It is very powerful, and pharmacy owners and managers continue to be impressed."

Pharmacist and eRx team member Jason Bratuskins demonstrating eRx at Pharmacy Expo.

THOSE INVOLVED SO FAR…

eRx Vendor Partners

Best Practice — An evolution in GP software | Amfac | FRED WE KNOW PHARMACY | HealthSoft Pharmacy Pro | minfos Your retail-pharmacy edge

ScriptPro by Phillips & Phillips Pharmacy Computers | PHARMASOL | PHOENIX COMPUTER SYSTEMS | simple retail | Virtual practice

Endorsement Partners

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia | PDL | AFSPA | NATIONAL PHARMACIES | SIGMA | Amcal

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Blooms THE CHEMIST | MediADVICE PHARMACY | CHEMIST WORKS | the green dispensary PHARMACY

Development Partners

Microsoft | hp | simpl | VeriSign

BACKGROUND

eRx Script Exchange is an industry-driven collaboration established to improve health outcomes for Australians. Led by Fred Health, it is being developed with the e-health expertise of Simpl New Zealand and Microsoft Australia, and rolled out throughout Australia in collaboration with leading software vendors.

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