

# Delivering province-wide, longitudinal patient records

/Case Study



*Manitoba eHealth initiated the design and implementation of a provincial secure electronic health record system with co-funding from Manitoba Health and Canada Health Infoway. It selected dbMotion as the solution for the electronic health record that is known as eChart Manitoba.*

The eChart Manitoba solution and practice controls were implemented following extensive analysis and consultation with other jurisdictions, clinicians, privacy experts and technical experts and through patient and public focus groups.

eChart was designed to improve quality of care, connect healthcare providers with secure access to key healthcare information, provide information from multiple electronic health systems in one place and reduce duplication and unnecessary tests.

Today, eChart is a key foundational component in Manitoba's digital health strategy. The system connects authorized healthcare providers across the province with secure access to key health information, such as drug prescriptions that have been filled, immunization histories and results from participating labs. eChart provides a comprehensive digital view of a patient's health history to support informed clinical decision making at the point of care. eChart is an integrated part of clinical workflows across a range of health delivery settings including hospitals, primary care, regional programs and nursing stations throughout the province.

Since the initial release of eChart in December 2010, there have been ongoing improvements, including new information sources, functionality and processes. The evolution of the system will continue to be a journey that mirrors health system changes and priorities.

## Client Profile

Manitoba eHealth

Manitoba, Canada

## OVERVIEW

- 1,000 physician practices supporting 5,000 physicians
- Population of 1.2 million spread over 650,000 kms
- Live at 531 sites:
  - All Regional Health Authorities
  - Hospitals
  - Primary care and Specialty care
  - First Nations nursing stations
  - Regional programs

## ALTERA DIGITAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS

- dbMotion™ Solution



### Better access to patient data

On average, clinicians search 239,000 patient charts each month, allowing them to see information from multiple electronic health systems in one place



### Saves time

Clinicians report spending 15–20 minutes less time when they search for patient medication information



### Reduces unnecessary testing

Access to information saves time and money by reducing duplicate testing

**Altera.**  
DIGITAL HEALTH

*"We've got a lot of patients who need to come into Winnipeg for tertiary care service and now their information can follow them home. It's sometimes easy to forget just how game-changing this system is."*

Liz Loewen  
Director of Coordination of Care  
Manitoba eHealth

*"It used to be tedious to try and retrieve blood tests and very frequently we find ourselves repeating those tests because we can't get access to them. With eChart, we look them up and find them right away, so we save the province and ourselves a lot of money and time because we have access to those tests."*

Dr. Tunji Fatoye  
Unit Director  
Kildonan Medical Centre

eChart has grown from three sites to 531 sites. This number includes 63 organizations serving First Nations communities. The system is well utilized with 7,311 active users.

Data sources that currently provide information to healthcare providers through eChart Manitoba include:

- Medications dispensed at retail pharmacies provided through the Drug Program Information Network (DPIN)
- Immunizations recorded in and provided by the Provincial Immunization System
- Patient demographic information and personal health identification number (PHIN), birth date and address, from the Manitoba Provincial Client Registry (CR)
- Laboratory results from participating public and private laboratories
- Diagnostic image reports from Manitoba's Radiology System (RIS) and launch to Image Viewer
- Administrative information regarding visits for almost all the hospitals in Manitoba (e.g., admission date, type of visit, discharge date, etc.)

## Providing the right information at the right place at the right time

Clinical use encourages continued adoption. Dr. Tunji Fatoye, Unit Director at Kildonan Medical Centre, was one of the first clinicians to go live with eChart. "We serve primarily an elderly population here, and a lot of our patients don't remember their medications, or who prescribed them, or how long they've been taking them," he said. "With eChart, we can go in and look at their prescribed medications...it's been very helpful, because prior to that we would spend 15 to 20 minutes trying to get it faxed over to us."