

Private care providers reveal wide differences in IT costs

Electronic care records: A price worth paying?

REPORT BY
Technology Correspondent

PRIVATE sector organisations looking to purchase an electronic care record system have been advised to take a long, hard look at what is available before making their choice.

For an increasing number of organisations – particularly those who are interested in competing for public sector contracts – have discovered to their dismay that the cost of implementation can vary widely across the country.

In some instances, they have been shocked to learn that the difference between some clinical electronic care record systems can be as much as 30 per cent.

Strand Technology's CareNotes solution, however, has consistently proved a cost-effective route to implementing a robust system – with lower costs.

The company already has a proven track record of working successfully with leading NHS Trusts and high profile private health care providers in the mental health sector.

Graham Phillips, Managing Director of Strand Technology, said: "We already have the functionality developed and in place. It's working, proven and we can arrange site visits to prove it. And because the



Warning: 'Shop around' to avoid spiralling IT implementation costs

solution is 'ready' this paves the way for reduced development costs at the implementation stage."

CareNotes is highly flexible and can be tailored around differing infrastructures – ones that are either highly comprehensive or pretty much non-existent.

And the solution already offers a

functionality that is not available using other care record system providers.

CareNotes, a fully-integrated electronic healthcare record solution, is designed by clinicians for clinicians.

For further information about how Strand Technology is working with the private sector, please contact 0845 66 079 67.

“*Strand Technology is a lean organisation without the overhead costs experienced by some suppliers which means the CareNotes solution can be delivered on time and on budget.*

– Graham Phillips, Managing Director, Strand Technology.

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A vital step in securing public health care contracts

REPORT BY John Stacey

THE squeeze on public sector finance forced by the Coalition government's Spending Review has led to the widespread belief that more NHS services will be shared by the private sector.

As a result, many of the private sector organisations that are interested in playing a bigger role will need to ensure they can meet NHS reporting requirements.

Central to this will be running a robust electronic patient records system to ensure collection of the Mental Health Minimum Dataset (MHMDS) and Cquin.

This means that electronic care systems such as Strand Technology's CareNotes assume even greater relevancy and importance in order to meet changes that are required for clinicians, Trusts and social services.

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CARENOTES CRS

Innovation in Mental Health
A complete Mental Health Care Record Solution designed by Social Workers and Mental Health clinicians that covers all aspects of the Care Programme Approach, inpatients, outpatients, day care, community and administration.

CARENOTES CAMHS

Innovation in Child and Family Mental Health
A specific electronic care record solution that records, monitors and shares information regarding the care provided to children and their families.

CARENOTES SM

Innovation in Substance Misuse
An Electronic Care Record solution designed specifically for the specialist requirements of Substance Misuse services.

Specialist electronic care records for the mental health sector

A quick and simple way to improve patient care

TWO leading providers of acute mental health care have chosen to roll out CareNotes as their new clinical software systems for patient care records.

The Priory Group and Partnerships In Care have both chosen to introduce CareNotes because of its proven track record in offering support both clinically and administratively.

CareNotes, developed by Strand Technology, is the leading solution for the mental health sector – in the NHS and private sectors.

It has been developed and perfected over many years with support from clinicians looking to harness the power of new technology to enhance patient care.

Graham Phillips, Managing Director of Strand Technology, said: “Strand is one of only a few software companies in the UK that have continued to develop its software to meet the changing needs of care specialists in the mental health sector.

“Now private sector care organisations can take advantage of the features and functionality in CareNotes to deliver better patient care, improved reporting facilities and increase business performance.

“Because of CareNotes’ trusted reputation, and the fact that it is now used by some of the biggest organisations in the NHS and private sector mental healthcare, it is also very attractive for smaller independent organisations who need to be ready to support major players.”

One private healthcare group implemented the new software within three months of signing a contract with Strand Technology, with roll-out taking only a further 10 weeks.

It introduced CareNotes as a fully-integrated system to manage complex case notes associated with long-term mental health conditions.

CareNotes’ functionality means that private healthcare operators can use a suite of bespoke forms that cover patient administration, clinical notes, assessments, care plans, prescriptions and outcomes.

Multi-disciplinary care teams are also able to use CareNotes, increasing communications and enhancing patient care. CareNotes is so flexible that it is attractive for bigger organisations with electronic systems already in place – or smaller independent providers who need a simpler approach.

** CareNotes implementations for The Priory Group and Partnerships In Care were part of a collaboration with Coldharbour systems and are fully integrated with their software packages.*



“A review of the current process around the summary care record will be carried out as part of a wider review on how information and technology can be best used within the NHS.”
– Simon Burns, Health Minister

“Private health care providers looking to gain NHS contracts in the future are likely to be required to provide reporting data in line with the NHS model. CareNotes is the solution and can bring major improvements both clinically and financially.”
– Graham Phillips, Managing Director, Strand Technology.

For further information about how Strand Technology is working with the private sector, please contact 0845 66 079 67.

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT

Flexible options available including finance (subject to acceptance).

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