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May 28, 2007

New technology improves patient care and cuts paperwork

MedShare responds to “perfect storm” in health care; launches MedShare HC for the BlackBerry wireless platform

[Waterloo, Ontario] – MedShare, an award-winning provider of home health care information and communication technologies today announced a new initiative to improve patient record confidentiality and cut home health care professionals’ paperwork and administrative time by as much as 10 per cent.

At the e-Health 2007: Paths to Transformation conference in Quebec City this week, MedShare has launched its popular electronic health record software, for the BlackBerry® wireless platform from Research In Motion (RIM) (Nasdaq: RIMM; TSX: RIM).

“We believe this mobile technology really is a transformation in the way home health care professionals will deliver medical services,” says Barry Billings, president of MedShare. “It will eliminate duplicate data entry and paper transactions that consume so much time it burdens health-care professionals.”

Remote health care professionals engage in manual record keeping, which adds an hour or two per day, on top of the home visits they’re involved with. They often do not have electronic connections to a central database because they are too remote to have a persistent electronic signal. Or, because the health care industry has been slow to switch from paper records to electronic records, health care professionals may not have access to an electronic database.

MedShare for BlackBerry solves both problems. First, it provides a home-office based electronic records database, through the increasingly popular MedShare HC software designed especially for home health care professionals. As well, in combination with the BlackBerry platform, the MedShare solution accommodates for what Billings calls “occasional disconnection” -- that is, health care professionals in the field or in remote locations without wireless coverage can continue to enter information on their BlackBerry smartphone, which is automatically cached and then transferred to their larger database when back in coverage. It provides transparent, seamless and secure access to essential health records.

Billings calls the current home health environment a “perfect storm” for MedShare.

“We’ve hit a critical mass,” he says. “We have electronic health records available through MedShare, wireless access through the BlackBerry platform, and society needing better health care access. Those three elements are combining to prompt the sector to re-invent how it delivers health care, and MedShare is the answer.”

“Wireless data solutions are being successfully implemented by organizations of all sizes in a wide variety of industries,” said Jeff McDowell, Vice President, Global Alliances at Research In Motion. “MedShare’s health care information solution on the BlackBerry platform can help facilitate better collaboration and improve administrative efficiencies for home care professionals and other health care professionals in the field.”

Five clients have signed on to pioneer this technology. Four are medium-sized regional health care agency groups with 25- to 250-employees, and one is a large national agency with 4,000 staff.

"The home care industry's greatest challenge is that it must deliver the best home health care services possible while maintaining operational efficiency. I believe we can only meet this challenge through advanced technology solutions" says John Schram, president and CEO of We Care Health Services Inc., which services Canadian clients from coast to coast from 50 locations. We Care will join the new initiative with MedShare and BlackBerry to pilot the new technology."

Home care is the fastest growing segment of the North American health care sector. In 2005, 2.1 million health care professionals provided medical services and daily-living assistance in their clients' homes.

About MedShare

MedShare is an award-winning provider of information and communication technologies to the North American home health care sector which is the fastest growing segment of the health care sector. MedShare delivers electronic health record and agency management solutions to meet the clinical and administrative needs of home health care professionals.

For more information, visit www.medshare.com. Or contact:

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