

Patients are the winners at the Interoperability Showcase in Barcelona

The patient moves to center stage during the Interoperability Showcase at the 2010 World of Health IT Conference & Exhibition (WoHIT) held during the 2010 eHealth week in Barcelona March 15-18, 2010.

In the largest exhibition space featured at WoHIT, the Interoperability Showcase provides a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the power of interoperability among health information systems.

The events and activities of the showcase, which will highlight significant advances made in Europe toward delivering the right information at the right moment for seamless patient care, will draw the participation of government decision makers and industry leaders alike.

Again this year, developers of health information systems and devices will be on hand, inviting participants at eHealth Week to become fictional patients in order to follow the data generated for their diagnosis and treatment along the clinical pathway as each product becomes a link in a coordinated chain of care.

This patient-centered approach provides WoHIT participants with a personal experience of the advantages of a common framework for health information systems interoperability developed by Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise's (IHE).

This year's Interoperability Showcase in Barcelona will also offer ongoing presentations in a open-theater kiosk of the growing number of success stories for IHE-based electronic patient record (EPR) projects in Europe.

Caregivers across Europe are increasingly benefitting an easier access to patient-related information available at any moment and from any location, no matter where the original data was generated.

A project of the Veneto region of Italy using IHE profiles and structures will show how a network of interlinked facilities gathers patient-related electronic medical records that traditionally were scattered among primary care centers, hospitals, private physician's practice.

A second project, from the Spanish state of Catalunya will demonstrate the benefits of open source development using IHE profiles.

And the Continua Health Alliance, a non-profit, open industry coalition to establish a system of interoperable personal telehealth solutions will jointly present with IHE a demonstration of the benefits of creating an eco-system of technologies working together for patient care.

The Interoperability Showcase opens on Monday afternoon, March 15 and continues through Wednesday evening, March 17.

Vendors and IHE members participating in the demonstrations and presentations include: 3M Engineering, Agfa, Alert, Costaisa, DBMotion, GEHC, Intersystems, ITH-iCserve, Microsoft, Philips, and Fujifilm.