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Hospitals in the Central East LHIN to Implement State of Art Surgical Booking and Wait Times System

Regional and harmonized wait list, remote booking and wait times reporting system will improve access for local residents.

AJAX, ON: March 30, 2011 -Novari Health announced today that it is working with seven of the hospitals in the Central East LHIN to implement its web-based Surgical Access with Smart Wait™ software system in order to improve access to care and ensure that the allocation of valuable surgical resources is improved for a variety of surgical services including cataract and hip and knee surgery.

The software will give surgeons advanced capabilities to manage their list of waiting patients and submit electronic and completely paperless bookings to the OR and other care sites in the hospitals. The Novari system will help ensure that the right patients receive treatment at the right time and on time while quickly indentifying patients who have waited beyond provincial wait time targets.

The rollout of the web-based software system illustrates how local health service providers, with the support of the Central East LHIN, are working together to ensure that the needs of local residents are being addressed and coordinated as a truly integrated system.

The Novari Surgical Access system completely automates the opening, updating and closing of cases in provincial wait list registries including Ontario's Wait Time Information System (WTIS).

Originally developed inside of Kingston General Hospital, Novari Surgical Access with Smart Wait™ is the only comprehensive web-based software solution combining list management in the surgeons' offices with automatic provincial wait times reporting. Novari SA integrates surgical offices into the hospital systems, improving the selection, preparation and booking of patients.

As part of the regional implementation interfaces will be deployed between the Novari System, various scheduling systems, patient registration systems and Ontario's Wait Time

Information System.

Phase one of the project includes Lakeridge Health, The Scarborough Hospital and Rouge Valley Health System. Phase two will quickly see Ross Memorial Hospital, Northumberland Hills Hospital, Campbellford Hospital and the Peterborough Regional Health Centre integrated into the regional system. The solution will be hosted at Lakeridge Health in Oshawa and leveraged by hospitals across the LHIN.

The first members of the region to implement the system are the two chiefs of surgery at Rouge Valley Health System.

Dr. Jon Hummel, Chief of Surgery at Rouge Valley Health System - Centenary Site noted; "*This is a major improvement in patient care at Rouge Valley. By electronically tracking the patient, Novari will simplify booking surgery for the hospital, the surgeon, and most of all, for the patient.*"

At the Ajax Site, Dr. Peter Hayashida identified that: "*This electronic interface will improve our ability to operate on patients quickly and safely. Being able to partner with the other hospitals in the LHIN means we can make this improvement in more places and get better value from the project*."

John Sinclair, Novari Health's Vice President of Business Development stated; "*The implementation, which has already begun, is being driven by the client's understanding that integrating the physician offices into hospital systems provides benefits to everyone involved in patient care, not least of all, the patients. Hospitals in the Central East LHIN have taken a leadership role in deploying technology to improve access to care, resource allocation, electronic bookings, paperless processes and automated provincial wait list registry reporting. Our system was designed from day one to have its maximum impact when deployed across a health region or province and this installation is validation of this concept. With automated wait times reporting to the provincial system, users of the Novari software will be feeding data into the provincial system without any additional work, paper or demands on their time. That's what we mean by "automated" provincial wait times reporting and it's a huge leap forward.*"

Based in Kingston Ontario, Novari Health (www.novarihealth.com) specializes in "access to care" software systems. The Novari Health team brings a special set of skills to the healthcare industry. Combining years of clinical practice, senior hospital management and web-based software development expertise, they are uniquely positioned to provide effective healthcare IT solutions that improve access to care.

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