

Drug Information System Update

Winter 2014

www.novascotia.ca/dhw/dis



The Drug Information System (DIS) is a provincial repository containing medication information for anyone who has a prescription filled in a community pharmacy in Nova Scotia.

A person's medication profile in the DIS includes prescriptions dispensed as well as e-Prescribed drugs and devices. If entered by the pharmacist or prescriber, the medication profile may also include: medical conditions, allergies and intolerances, adverse drug reactions, other medications (e.g., OTCs), patient observations and notes, immunizations and pharmacy professional services.

Stream 1 – Community Pharmacies

- Connection of community pharmacies to the Drug Information System continues and experience to date has been very positive.
- It is expected that most community pharmacies will be connected by December 2014; however, as more pharmacies connect, the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists will set a date by which all community pharmacies must be connected.
- The project team continues to work closely with community pharmacy organizations and independent pharmacies to support connection and adoption.
- The project team also continues to work with pharmacy system vendors on system changes to connect to the Drug Information System.
- As community pharmacies connect, the volume of information will grow providing greater clinical value to pharmacies and hospital and community users.

Anticipated Rollout Dates & Functionality

1. Community Pharmacy Fall 2013 – December 2014

(connection to the system)

2. Hospitals and Community Prescribers

Fall 2014 – Spring 2015

(rollout Drug Information System Portal & e-Prescribing and access to the system through SHARE Clinical Portal)

3. Provincial EMR

Spring 2015
(integration with provincial EMR & e-Prescribing)

Stream 2 – Hospitals and Community Prescribers

- The Medication Reconciliation Report has been finalized. This report can be generated from the Drug Information System and used as a tool to assist with existing DHA\IWK medication reconciliation processes.
- Design of enhancements to the Drug Information System Portal, as recommended by the Clinical Advisory Group to better support clinical workflow and e-Prescribing, is complete. Modifications to the software are underway.
- Engagement with Hospital and Community Prescribers and other users continues.

If you know of an organization that would be interested in learning about the Drug Information System or if you have any questions, please let us know.

Cheryl Harrison
Change Management &
Communications Specialist

Cheryl.Harrison@gov.ns.ca
(902) 424-3859

Judy Sampson
Change Management Lead

Judy.Sampson@gov.ns.ca
(902) 424-5943

Stream 3 – Provincial EMRs

- Development of the Vendor Implementation Guide continues. This guide defines the functional requirements of EMR systems to be able to connect to the DIS.
- The timing of EMR integration will depend on EMR Vendor priorities. It is anticipated that rollout to EMR users is not likely to begin prior to spring of 2015.