O Canada

Alan Lau
Head of Strategy & Delivery, Digital Health Interoperability
Canada Health Infoway
Canada Health Infoway is an independent, not-for-profit organization funded by the federal government (i.e., Health Canada).

We work with our partners to make health care more digital by ensuring that everyone is able to access health information and services online.

Two (2) cornerstone programs:
1. Digital Health Interoperability
2. PrescribeIT® (Canada’s e-prescription service)
Infoway’s Journey in Driving Pan-Canadian Interoperability

1. Building the Infrastructure: Established the foundational infrastructure for digital health

2. Digitizing of Health Records: Provisioned electronic medical records, digital health tools and telehealth solutions

3. Driving Access to Care: Proliferated consumer-facing solutions to increase access to care (brick & mortar and virtual care)

4. Digital Health Interoperability: Coordinate pan-Canadian efforts to establish data and exchange standards to enable Connected Care

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The Canadian Health System At A Glance

38,500,000 population in Canada

82% Urban

$344B health expending expected in 2023

12.1% GDP

38,500,000 population

50% total health expenditure

2.5 beds per 1,000 population

96,020 physicians in Canada

247 MDs per 100,000 population

92% Urban

72% Fee for service

28% Alternative payments

Sources:
Decentralized, universal, publicly funded health system called “Canadian Medicare”

Multi-payers: public funding, private insurance, out-of-pocket, and others

Majority of physicians are self-employed and incorporated
Digital Health Landscape Across Canada

Variability in:
• Health system priorities
• Digital health maturity
• Digital health solutions

Common elements include:
• Large EHR vendors
• Need for information sharing across geographies
Connected Care to Enable a Healthier Canada

• In May 2023, Canada Health Infoway, in collaboration with jurisdictional partners published the Shared Pan-Canadian Interoperability Roadmap

• The Interoperability Roadmap **aligns, supports and complements provincial and territorial roadmaps** by providing common, pan-Canadian data, technical and policy standards
Immediate Priorities (Top-Down)

1. Primary Care Data Portability
   Initiative will initially focus on developing a primary care data set for interoperable health information exchange.

2. Patient Summary
   Pan-Canadian Patient Summary (PS-CA) will allow care solutions to contribute pertinent health information into clinical repositories to improve health outcomes and reduce administrative burden for clinicians.

3. Patient Access to Electronic Health Data
   This Patient Access initiative will work towards enriching the information available to patients, aspiring to enable access to a full longitudinal health record.

4. e-Referral & e-Consult
   Establishing a pan-Canadian specification will streamline referrals (patients being referred to specialists) and consults (physicians consulting specialists for their expertise) between interoperable systems.
The building blocks were identified and grounded in 3 core frameworks that support the entire array of top-down functionalities desired:

1. **Data Foundation and Portability Framework**

2. **Access and Exchange Framework (Data and Service)**

3. **Trust Framework**
Call to Action: International Collaboration

- **International Sharing** – promote interoperability specification development that allows for international sharing

- **Innovation & Adoption** – create practical sharing opportunities for national developments to be adopted elsewhere

- **Vendor Engagement** – improve integration of interoperability innovation into vendor conformance
Thank you!

Alan Lau
alau@infoway-inforoute.ca
M: 416-616-6124

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