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What is the eRx Script Exchange?

eRx Script Exchange uses secure communication over the internet to provide:

- Transmission of original prescriptions from Prescribers to Pharmacists
- Retrieval of repeat prescriptions by Pharmacists
- The option for Prescribers to be notified of a dispense event – (with patient consent)
- The option of patients having their dispensing history sent to 3rd party service providers upon request e.g. IEHR (future release and only with patient consent)
eRx Script Exchange Features

- Available to all GPs, medical facilities and pharmacists regardless of which software systems they are using via certified eRx adaptors
- Common sense stepped approach duplicating current paper prescription
- Compliant with all privacy laws and regulations
- Maintains consumer choice with no point-to-point routing of prescriptions in community pharmacy
- Uses central hub or repository model
A Collective Industry Effort!

eRx Script Exchange is an industry driven approach involving all the major vendors and many endorsement partners:
The eRx Process – Need

An otherwise healthy child comes down with severe rash all over
A worried mum takes her sick child to the local GP for a consult, a diagnosis is made and the GP decides to prescribe some antibiotics to stop further infection.
The GP uses their existing computer prescribing software to write a prescription and this is printed exactly as it is now with the addition of an eRx ID barcode printed on the front of the prescription.

If the GP wants notification of the dispensing to be returned by the pharmacy he asks the patient for consent to do so.
Felix Adams
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01/04/2009

Dr. Adonis Lanver
MBBSc

Coumadin 1mg Tablet
As directed
Quantity: 50. 2 repeats.

Coumadin 2mg Tablet
As directed
Quantity: 50. 2 repeats.

Coumadin 5mg Tablet
As directed
Quantity: 50. 2 repeats.

3 items printed.

Dr. Adonis Lanver
MBBSc

Script ID: 001236
The GP gives the paper prescription with the eRx barcode printed on it to the mother and she heads to her pharmacy of choice.
eRx Step 3 – Dr Upload Rx Info

Meanwhile, in the background the GP’s system encrypts the prescription data and sends securely via the internet to eRx Script Exchange to store until the mother presents the paper prescription.
The mother arrives at any pharmacy and hands over the paper script. The pharmacist scans the eRx barcode from within his current dispensing software and requests the prescription data from eRx Script Exchange.
eRx Step 5 – Retrieve Rx Info

eRx receives this request and returns the encrypted prescription data to the pharmacy that requested it with the eRx barcode.
eRx Step 6 – Safely Dispense

The pharmacist dispenses the medicine using the accurate prescription details provided by GP via eRx and the child instantly gets better.

The mum leaves the pharmacy with a repeat script with a new eRx barcode in case she needs it dispensed next week.
COUMADIN (LIGHT TAN) TABLETS 1mg Qty 50
Take as directed by your doctor

2 Rpts Left Dr Adonis LANVER Rpt No 36Y

Date 01/04/09 HQ025F
No. 1583 2

Name and PBS approval number of pharmacist dispensing this supply
Valid to 01/04/10
M/C 4133-18046-61 to 01/2005
eRx: 9666666NC89W3H5VP0
Reg25: 0604

Name and PBS approval number of pharmacist issuing this authorisation
eRx User 666666
eRx Test Site 8
20 Treerney Crescent
ABBOTSFORD 3067
Ph: 03 9418 1800
01/04/09 JB HQ025F

I certify that I have received the medication and the information relating to any entitlement to free or concessional pharmaceutical benefits is not false or misleading.

patient’s or agent’s signature

Date of supply
eRx Step 7 – Upload Rx Dispensed

The pharmacy system sends the dispense notification and new repeat information back to eRx.
If the patient has provided consent eRx will send the dispense notification back to the doctor so he can note this when mum brings the child back for a review.
eRx Script Exchange Progress & Timeline

- eRx Script Exchange solution began staged deployment in April – continuing installs of existing vendor sites (Fred and Best Practice)
- IT Vendors covering 99% of Pharmacies and 90%+ of doctors are committed to provide eRx
- Vendors currently integrating include Corum (Amfac and Pharmasol), HCN (Medical Director), Minfos, Simple Aquarius and Pharmacy Pro
- HCN (Medical Director) and Zedmed joined the eRx Script Exchange in August, 2009
- Continuing discussion with other IT partners & industry participants (eg. Aged Care, government)
- To date, eRx has transmitted in excess of 500,000 e-prescriptions
Implementation

- Project profile defined approach
  - New technology application
  - Diverse stakeholder interests
  - Geographic dispersion
  - Success criteria

- Risk assessment defined early focus
  - Scalability to 300m scripts p.a.
  - Sub 3 sec response
  - Robust security model
  - Development standards

- Project management and governance
What about:
- Secure messaging standards (NEHTA WSP, IT-14 security principles)
- Authentication (NASH, HeSA keys)
- Prescription & medication data standards (NEHTA medication, CDA, IT14 HL7)
- Australian Medicines Terminology (AMT)
- Identifiers (UHI & IHI)
Interoperable by Design

Data Structure Mapping
Identifier Mapping
Terminology Mapping
Secure Messaging
Deployment & Update

Transformation

Adapter
<custom> -> eRx Script Exchange

<Standards conformant Rx>
Interoperable by Design

- Data Structure Mapping
- Identifier Mapping
- Terminology Mapping
- Secure Messaging
- Deployment & Update

Transformation

Adapter

<Standards conformant Rx>
<custom Rx>