



eReferral Project Summary

Please describe the purpose / goals for your eReferral project. Give a description of the health care provider/system, why/how they were selected, and other relevant information. What outcomes are you seeking to achieve through this project?

The purpose and goal was to have a policy driven, eReferral program (Opt-to-Quit™) for Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) tobacco using patients to the New York State Smokers' Quitline (NYSSQL). The eReferral program is an extension of the site based RPCI cessation program (*Just Breathe*). This was done by implementing a bidirectional eReferral system that refers all relatively lower risk tobacco using patients (high risk receive *Just Breathe* extended intervention) for continued intervention by NYSSQL. Phase 1 of this project began in May 2014. This exchange is based on a point-to-point automated referral data transmission from RPCI's EHR to the Roswell Park Cessation Services (RPCS) web-services and data systems that supports the NYSSQL services.

The format for data exchange is based on self-defined XML specifications (may be extended to follow HL7). This approach is adapted to minimize recurring costs to providers. This also allows the providers to send minimum data necessary without stringent constraints imposed by HL7.

Type of Project

Is this project for inpatients, outpatients, or both? Please describe the characteristics of the health care system / provider you are working with. Is it an acute care hospital, a specialty hospital, an ambulatory clinic, or a physicians group? Does the clinic have any special attributes, such as a behavioral health clinic or a federally qualified health center? Is the physicians' group multispecialty, single specialty or primary care?

Roswell Park Cancer Institute is a NCI designated comprehensive care center and specializes in cancer care, research and education. The eReferral program is part of inpatient and outpatient care that automatically refers tobacco using patients to NYSSQL

Dates

Please note the date started and completed. If the project is still ongoing, please include the expected date of completion.

Start Date	May 2014
Expected Complete Date or	Not Applicable
Actual Complete Date:	Ongoing

Key Players

Provide a list of the key organizations responsible for planning, implementing and funding your eReferral project.

Partner	Name	Location	Key Roles and Responsibilities for eReferral Implementation
Health Care System	Roswell Park Cancer Institute	Buffalo NY	Implement an organization wide policy to automatically refer a tobacco user for additional intervention by Quitline following their discharge. Outpatients are referred after visit. Modify their system to transmit the data on tagged individuals on real-time or on a periodic basis.
Quitline Service Provider	Roswell Park Cessation Services	Buffalo, NY	Build and maintain data transfer systems and web services. Provide technical and policy related assistance to decision makers, hospital and IT staff.
Quitline Funder	New York State Bureau of Tobacco Control, Dept. of Health	Albany, NY	Support implementation of Opt-To-Quit™ for health systems as a function of the NYSSQL
Funder	All key Players		No “new” funds allotted for implementation.

Technology

Provide a list of the key technology vendors and resources used to build your eReferral system. Note whether you are using HL7 2.x or HL7 3.x (cCDA) as your interoperability standard. Describe your HIE framework.

Technology	Vendor Name	Software Description (eg, name, version, type)
NYS Smokers' Quitline	Roswell Park Cessation Services	Custom developed software
Data Specifications	Roswell Park Cessation Services	Self-defined XML data format (can be updated to HL7 CCD document in future)
Information Exchange	Roswell Park Cessation Services	Custom developed Web Service that can accept or supply referral and outcome information to providers.
EHR	Roswell Park Cancer Institute	Extract referral data and stream it to NYS Quitline web-service for further processing. (automated at both ends)

Key Work

Please breakdown the project into key areas of work or milestones that must be completed so that readers have an understanding of the project framework and complexity.

Key Area / Milestone	Description of Project Steps
Feasibility	The feasibility of the referral system has been confirmed.
Extension	Extend the reverse information flow to providers' EHR from RPCS/NYSSQL outcome reports.
Bidirectional	Work with the provider facility to retrieve outcome information from Quitline and compile into the patient's medical record.

Project Outcomes

Please note progress to date on project implementation and outcomes. If eReferrals are being made, please describe whether they are bi-directional and whether information is being passed as discrete data or unformatted text. How many eReferrals are generated in a given timeframe?

Currently the data transfer is limited to referrals from the provider to RPCS/NYSSQL using an XML based data schema. The reverse data flow is to be implemented as resources become available for the provider. Since the start of the eReferral system, the NYSSQL has received over 1,900 RPCI patient referrals.

Key Challenges / Lessons Learned

The major impediments for implementing the program are the delays in accessing technology resources by providers and cost of implementation.

The mode of transmittal should also be flexible to fit smaller clinics and group practices.

Attachments

Please include any supporting documentation that will help others to learn from your eReferral project. Examples include practice workflows, technology diagrams, order sets, discharge instructions, EHR screen shots, and other practical applications of your eReferral process. List below:

- 1.
- 2.