

## Minutes from National iMedConsent™ VANTS Call

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

Ray Frazier, National Center for Ethics in Health Care

### 1. Upcoming Release

Beta release tentatively scheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup>. For cyber security reasons, this release will include an enhancement that will disable the function that allows users to save forms to the workstation. Paul Tompkins in Tampa indicated that this function was useful to build pre-populated templates for use when VistA goes down. Dialog Medical and the Ethics Center will try to work with Tampa to see if we can't figure out a "workaround."

There were also a number of other bug fixes as well as new content in multiple specialties. Please refer to the forthcoming release notes for details.

### 2. Technical Issues Affecting iMed Implementation

David Bradley, Program Analyst in the OI Office of Service Coordination, was on the call to learn more about some of the technical issues and challenges that impact iMedConsent implementation and usage. Mainly, we'd like to hear from sites that are having wireless performance issues that we might be able to coordinate with the OI&T folks to see if we can make some short-term improvements. There is currently a project in the planning stage to upgrade the wireless infrastructure across all the sites, but that is 6-18 months down the road for most facilities.

We would like to document all of the issues facilities are experiencing, and we asked POCs to send an email detailing their problem(s) to Dialog Medical support ([enterprise@dialogmedical.com](mailto:enterprise@dialogmedical.com)). Dialog Medical will, in turn, roll these issues up to David Bradley, and facilities that are having significant issues *may* be prioritized in the queue for the national wireless upgrade project.

The discussion proceeded as follows:

- a. Tampa indicated that they have significant issues with wireless connectivity. David asked for a description of the problem, including the areas experiencing difficulty, to be sent to Dialog Medical.
- b. Seattle indicated that they experience wireless "dead spots." This is problematic in that if you bring up a consent form, then move the workstation to the patient (sometimes as little as a couple feet), you lose the connection and lose the consent.
- c. West LA says they are putting more antennas out and asked whether this is the kind of information we are looking for. We responded that, if you are getting the support and upgrades you need locally, you need not report this as an issue. We're looking to identify issues that are lingering unaddressed despite efforts to resolve them with local resources.

- d. Indianapolis asked whether wireless signature pads were going to be available any time soon. Bill Taylor indicated that Interlink has said that they do not yet have any models available and there are no immediate plans to develop one. Dialog tested one model from Topaz and they were not very impressed with it. Colleen at Mountain Home related her experiences testing a wireless Topaz unit (apparently a different model from the one tested by Dialog Medical) for three months last year. It performed very well, but she has heard nothing since related to its release. I asked people to proceed cautiously—if a wireless signature pad comes on the market, it needs to go through national testing and certification before facilities purchase them and put them into use.
- e. Seattle indicated that there is lingering uncertainty/confusion about what funds may/must be used to purchase signature pads (IT or medical?). I had heard that signature pads were considered “medical” just like BCMA scanners, and medical funds could be used for purchase. David says that he will follow-up to get a definitive statement from a definitive source.
- f. Vergence locator update: still stuck in OI&T. I continue to work on escalating the release of the CCOW Vault upgrade.
- g. Syracuse has an issue with Flo Carts and cellular phone interference. When cell phones are on, and near the cart, the connection is slowed so much that it stops or locks-up. Sometimes you lose the session altogether.
- h. Denver began experiencing iMedConsent problems when they moved to the remote data center—increased errors in the job monitor. Dialog Medical is aware of this problem and is investigating its cause.