

News Release

Orion Health secures new message service accreditation

Major healthcare IT vendor is one of the first to secure NHS Digital accreditation for a Message Exchange for Social Care and Health API, putting it at the forefront of information exchange between health and care organisations.

Orion Health has become one of the first suppliers to be able to use a new NHS messaging service to exchange information between health and care systems.

The company secured Message Exchange for Social Care and Health (MESH) Application Programme Interface (API) accreditation from NHS Digital last month.

MESH is now the main message exchange service for health and social care. It has replaced the Data Transfer Service (DTS), which was introduced more than a decade ago to enable health and care systems to exchange information with each other, using modern web standards.

MESH is already being used by most GP practices to receive test results and clinical correspondence from hospitals. Users access these messages through a MESH client or, more commonly, through systems that have been integrated with MESH using an API.

Orion Health's accreditation means that NHS organisations that use its Rhapsody™ Integration Engine can exchange information with other organisations using MESH.

Three hospitals in Liverpool and a major London hospital have already bought the new functionality to send pathology results and discharge summaries to GPs.

Anne O'Hanlon, Solution Consulting Director for Orion Health in EMEA said: "MESH is strategically important for the NHS in England as it gives organisations a common way to securely communicate with each other electronically across many different business processes, such as when people change their GP, have a blood test or are discharged from hospital. We integrated Rhapsody™ to the MESH API according to NHS Digital's specification. Several rounds of testing were undertaken to demonstrate we could comply with the authentication requirements and handle any errors appropriately. We were very pleased to receive accreditation from NHS Digital and we are now looking forward to working with our NHS customers to make use of this new service. This accreditation demonstrates our commitment to the TechUK Interoperability Charter and NHS England's Open API policy."

MESH is built on Spine infrastructure and supports some important information flows, including: pathology results reporting, GP data extraction and payments, out of hours services, clinical correspondence and Open Exeter's screening services.

New workflows are being added and NHS Digital is looking at how it could be used for communication with social care.

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Rhapsody™ is Orion Health's foundation product. It is an integration engine that enables health organisations to acquire and exchange data from the systems that they use and with other organisations.

It does this by accepting messages from health and care systems, processing them, and sending them on to other systems, using widely understood standards. The NHS Digital accreditation means this now includes MESH.

Notes to editors

About Orion Health Ltd

Orion Health is an award-winning population health management company and one of the world's leading providers of electronic health records (EHRs) and secure information exchange solutions to health and care organisations. Worldwide, Orion Health solutions are used in 30 countries to facilitate timely, safe and effective healthcare delivery to more than 100 million patients. This includes over 70 organisations throughout the NHS in England, more than 50% of Scotland's population, and all of Northern Ireland. Within EMEA, the firm has three offices in the UK as well as offices in France, Spain, Turkey and UAE. More information can be found at <http://www.orionhealth.com>

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