TITLE:

NHS-wide Survey of WiFi Access for Staff

INTRODUCTION:

Members of the NHS Hack Day community (nhshackday.com), including the OpenGPSoC (opengpsoc.org) and HANDIhealth (handihealth.org) are conducting a survey of the ease of organisational WiFi access at their place of work for NHS Staff.

Increasingly, NHS staff are seeking to improve the care they provide by making reference to knowledge sources based on the Internet using their own smartphones and other devices. Unfortunately, it is apparent that in many work settings, WiFi access for staff is not straightforward and in many cases is not available. Many organisations do provide PC terminals which have Internet Access, however this is often insufficient for accessing knowledge or resources at the point of care.

In order to take this WiFi issue forward, it is necessary to first gather data on the current level of WiFi provision. We would appreciate your help in collecting data about the ease of WiFi access in your place of NHS work. Most importantly, if you are completing this survey, please also distribute it to your work colleagues so we can maximise the number and spread of responses.

Our non-profit organisations believe in openness, transparency and trust. No personally identifiable data will be collected or shared about your responses. There is a section at the end for any comments you wish to make to the survey team, or for wider distribution (only with your permission). Results of this survey will be available from the websites of NHS Hack Day (nhshackday.com), OpenGPSoC (opengpsoc.org) and HANDIhealth (handihealth.org) and will also be widely distributed.

Note that efforts are being made separately for universal, free, WiFi access for Patients in the NHS and we wholeheartedly support this work. (see http://johnpopham.wordpress.com/2011/07/15/free-wifi-for-hospital-patients-progress-report/) However, for our current needs we would like to aim this survey purely at NHS STAFF ONLY.

1. Which part of the NHS do you MAINLY work in?

- Primary Care / GP
- Secondary Care / Hospital
- Other (please specify)

2. In your usual place of NHS work do you have access to free WiFi? (for the purposes of this answer include only WiFi located at your place of work, not WiFi from smartphone 3G tethering etc)

- Never
- Sometimes (<50% of the time)
- Mostly (>50% of the time)
- Always

3. Which of the following best describes the status of WiFi at your NHS organisation?

- No WiFi - there are no WiFi networks at all
- There is a WiFi network but it is not free to use.
- There is a WiFi network but I do not have the password.
- Trust-provided free WiFi (and you have the password to connect to WiFi)

- BT OpenZone or similar services with no fee (no password to connect to WiFi, but you need to log in on a page in web browser)
- EduRoam academic network
- My place of work has installed its own free WiFi (eg a GP practice which has installed WiFi)

4. Do you think that having access to WiFi during NHS work would help you deliver better care of your patients?

- YES
- MAYBE
- NO
- Please feel free to expand your answer with comments here.

5. If we had to prioritise the order in which organisations should provide access to services via WiFi, how would you rank the following, from 1 (Highest Priority) to 5 (Lowest Priority)

- Clinician access to wider INTERnet via WiFi
- Clinician access to organisation's INTRAnet via WiFi
- Clinician access to organisation's Clinical Infomation Systems (electronic health records, test ordering and results, demographic systems, etc) via WiFi
- Patient access to Internet

6. OPTIONAL: What is the postcode of the NHS organisation at which you do most of your work? (this question is optional but helpful - we need your work postcode so we can create maps of WiFi access across the NHS)

7. OPTIONAL: do you have any comments on WiFi access for staff or patients in the NHS? (please do not include any patient or staff-identifiable information in this box)