

Existing Solutions

Sunday, 14 January 2018 12:17 PM

The following are some software solutions that come close to achieving the clients requested solution. It should be noted that the requested solution is a niche application that is dedicated to keeping a database of all of an individual GP's patients, with a visit-by-visit log that allows notes and media to be attached to each visit. For this reason, an application that does this exactly could not be found, and the extent of lessons learnt from existing solutions were limited. Nevertheless, similar features can be found in the following applications.

CareRight

CareRight is a practice management solution, that includes a range of tools that aid in the operation of a medical practice. CareRight is a web-based app. While it is not meant as a dedicated database for keeping track of patients, it does include many of the features requested by the client.

Positives	Negatives
+ Includes a Patients list + Includes Patient information + Includes a range of other features that Help with running a practice + Includes a search function, search by name, age, phone number etc... + Great User Interface + Web Application, accessible by phone, Tablets, Desktop PC etc...	- Notes can only be attached to a patient - No visit-by-visit log for each patient - Images can only be attached to patients, and are not displayed in the solution, they must be downloaded

Conclusion:

This solution would be the most suitable for the client, compared to the other solutions I researched. This application is clearly meant for the running of a practice, or a number of practices, as evidenced by the ability to add multiple practices, have multiple users with different permissions, the range of practice-running tools included in the solution etc... While these features make this solution a solid choice for the managers of medical practices, as the client does not own a practice, and simply wants a database solution for her patients, they only serve to make the solution over complicated and harder to use. Furthermore, the solution does not include the vital features the client requested, such as a visit-by-visit log, tying images to visits etc... Inspiration can be taken from the excellent User Interface of this program, the fact that it is a web application offers an admirable amount of flexibility, and it includes features that somewhat resemble the requirements of the client. However, as with every other application that was researched, the very specific requirements of the client are not met in this application.

What can we learn from this application?

This application demonstrates that the best approach to creating the final solution, would be to create a web-based application, with a fluent and modern User Interface, that is created to the exact specifications of the client. Meaning it includes all of the features asked for, and no features that are irrelevant to the client.

Source:  
[www.clientel.com.au](http://www.clientel.com.au)

PrimaryClinic

PrimaryClinic is a desktop application, used for the operation of a practice. Much like CareRight, this application is not a dedicated patient database software, while still including a list of patients.

Positives	Negatives
+ Includes patient list + Includes a search system, although it is Very much not user friendly and overly complicated + Can store notes, but only in the calendar	- Terrible User Interface - No visit-by-visit log - No images - Windows application

Conclusion:

As with every other researched application, PrimaryClinic is not a dedicated patient database for an individual GP. This application is commonly used by GPs in the workplace, and works as a scheduler, and an overall management application. The User Interface of this application is notably terrible. The application does provide a basic database for patients, with their information listed. A limited number of the client's requested functions can be found here, most of them with a compromise. For example, a note-taking function is included here, however they can only be made on the calendar, for specific days. There is no visit-by-visit log, and no images can be stored. Furthermore, the application is windows based, and cannot be used on any other platform. Overall a pretty disappointing application.

What can we learn from this application?

This application displays the importance of white space, sectioning, an UX when creating a User Interface. Furthermore, it demonstrates how a strange and unfamiliar search function can sometimes hide the entire function and render it useless.

Source:  
[www.primaryclinic.com.au](http://www.primaryclinic.com.au)

ZedMed

ZedMed is another management software for medical practices. It is a local application that is made for multiple platforms. It can be used for billing and has Medicare integration. ZedMed can also be used to keep track of patients, once again however, it fails to meet the exact specifications of the client.

Positives	Negatives
+ Includes a patient list + Includes a search system + Can store notes, but only in the patient's entire file + Can store images, but they are not Displayed in the applications, and must be downloaded	- Bad User Interface - Cannot be accessed by Tablet Or phone - No visit-by-visit log

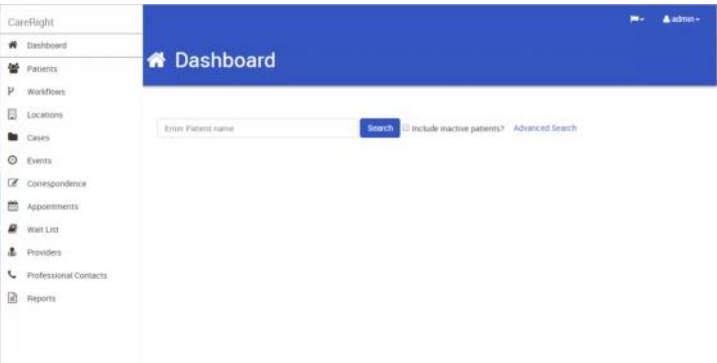
Conclusion:

ZedMed is much like PrimaryClinic, in that it is a local application created for the management and operation of a practice. It includes the core functionality requested by the client. However, it once again fails to meet their specifications, as many of the features are not included in the application in the way the client requested. For example, the note-storing feature was requested by the client, and is included here, however, it is attached to the patients entire file rather than a visit-by-visit log. The User Interface here is not as bad as PrimaryClinic, however it is still overall pretty bad.

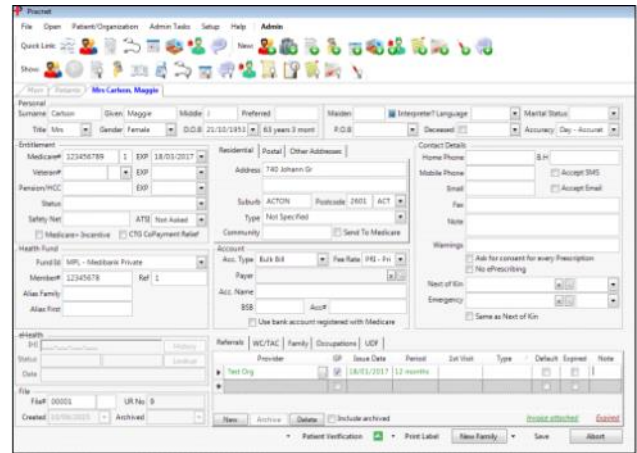
What can we learn from this application?

ZedMed displays the importance of using a modern framework when creating UI, so that the application doesn't look like one from 2007. Other lessons learnt from this application, had already been explored in

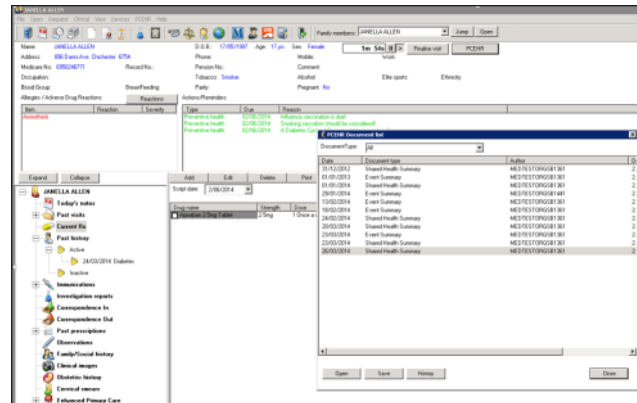
Example of CareRight's User Interface:



Example of PrimaryClinic's User Interface:



Example of ZedMed's UI:



D

the other applications.

Source:

[www.zedmed.com.au](http://www.zedmed.com.au)