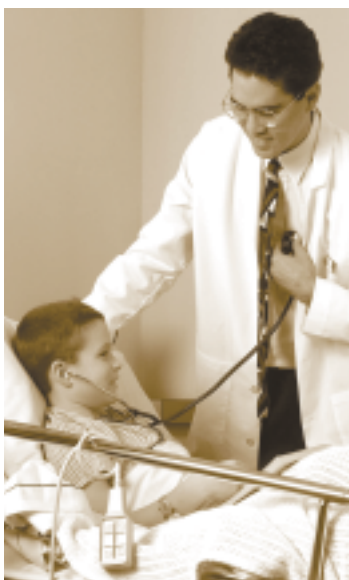




Real-Time Data Access

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center accesses vital clinical information — anytime, anywhere



Enterprise: Cedars-Sinai Health System

Industry: Healthcare

Application: Palm VII™ handheld solution provides physicians with completely mobile, web-based access to clinical information — anytime, anywhere.

Profile: Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, located in Los Angeles, CA, is a non-profit corporation that includes an 800-bed medical center, specialty clinics, a managed care foundation, and a guidelines and outcomes consulting practice. Cedars-Sinai employs over 7,000 individuals.

Physicians rely upon patient data, lab results, and surgical reports to provide the best in patient care. The challenge for Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (www.csmc.edu) was to get this information to those who need it in the most efficient, cost-effective way. The hospital researched ways to provide its physicians with a solution that was both flexible and powerful — one which would let doctors access vital patient data with complete mobility.

Cedars-Sinai chose a solution based on the Palm OS®, employing the Palm VII™ wireless handheld, Intranet access, and an Oracle database solution. The solution, developed in-house, provides clinicians with a physician directory lookup, paging and wireless access to email, secure access to confidential patient information, and wireless order processing for books and articles from the medical library.

Prior to this implementation, physicians accessed patient information either via web browsers residing on desktop PCs or by reviewing the patient's medical record. Desktop dependency limited the physicians' mobility and delayed access to patient information critical for quality care. Today, using Palm VII handhelds, physicians quickly and securely obtain remote access to clinical information that resides in a variety of back-end systems. Information such as lab test results, physical evaluations, consultations, surgical reports, and admitting histories are accessed via simple pull-down menus and pick-lists. Easy access gives physicians the information they need, when and where they need it. Access to these resources is controlled and secured to ensure that confidentiality is maintained.

Cedars-Sinai quickly expanded its suite of wireless Palm OS solutions. Physicians now access a directory lookup application that provides contact data for employees and physicians and lets users send email by simply tapping on the displayed email address. The solution also affords alphanumeric paging, letting physicians send messages to other clinicians' pagers, and an order entry application that lets them request article and book reprints from the medical center library. Palm VII handhelds are pre-loaded with third-party wireless applications useful in healthcare, such as HealthNet's MedLine medical database and Go's Translator application for language translation.

"We chose the Palm VII handheld because of its ease of use, performance, and tightly integrated wireless networking. It's equipped with fast, elegant software, good power management, and requires minimal training," said Dr. Ray Duncan, Director of Technology and Architecture for Enterprise Information Services at Cedars-Sinai Health Systems. "Additionally, the strength of the Palm OS development tools allowed us to quickly and easily deploy our existing web-based applications on the Palm™ handhelds in just a matter of days."

Cedars-Sinai plans to provide more user capabilities via wireless networking by enabling existing web applications to run on the Palm VII. Cedars-Sinai is also investigating the use of new Oracle tools for the Palm OS to provide tighter integration between Palm VII applications and a wide range of departmental and enterprise-wide Oracle databases. By aggressively exploiting new technology such as the Palm VII handheld, Cedars-Sinai is able to maintain its leadership position as a world-renowned provider of exceptional patient care.

Mobilize Your Enterprise

One of a series that profiles real-world handheld computing solutions on the Palm OS®.



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