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# Toronto firm licenses mobile app to U.S. health provider

By: **Rafael Ruffolo** On: 19 Jul 2010 For: ComputerWorld Canada **COMPUTERWORLD**

Minneapolis-based health-care payer and provider HealthPartners will use Diversinet's mobile communications apps to reduce hospital visits and improve the overall interaction between patients and physicians

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Toronto-based **Diversinet Corp.** has struck a multi-year deal with U.S.-based non-profit health insurer and provider **HealthPartners** to build out a secure, mobile communications platform.

Earlier this year, Diversinet unveiled **MobiSecure** SMS and the latest version of **MobiSecure** Wallet and Vault, apps designed to ensure patients keep up to date on their personal health records via their mobile devices. The apps, which also work over the Web, support over 200 types of mobile devices, including BlackBerry, Palm, Windows Mobile, Symbian, iPhone, and Android-based handsets.

The agreement means Minneapolis-based HealthPartners will team with Diversinet to develop applications and build out its suite of mobile offerings for patients. Initially, Diversinet said, HealthPartners will offer programs to help subscribers communicate with their care managers via secure, two-way messaging.

HealthPartners will start by offering services to women with high-risk pregnancies and patients with chronic illnesses who have been recently discharged from the hospital. The goals include avoiding premature births and reducing hospital visits, Diversinet said.

Scott Aebischer, senior vice-president of customer service and product innovation for HealthPartners, said his organization has been working with Diversinet over the last few months. Although the health provider has had electronic secure messaging in place for several years, he said this will be its first foray into secure mobile messaging.

"Feedback during the design phase was very positive and was viewed as a further enhancement to the increased need for personalization of care," he said. "Customers view this as another way of being in touch during their specific health care needs."

The health provider will start rolling out applications in the fourth quarter of 2010.

With the **MobiSecure** Wallet and Vault apps, users can receive appointment reminders, test results, prescription information, immunization records, allergy information, and other related medical data. For users involved in a medical emergency abroad, the app will be able to connect back to a patient medical history and information about insurance coverage.

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Rafael Ruffolo joined ComputerWorld as a staff writer in June 2007 and was the winner of a Kenneth R. Wilson award for business journalism. He is interested in government IT, copyright, virt... more

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