

Diversinet showcases advancements in secure doc-patient communication

By Mike Miliard, Managing Editor

TAMPA, FL -- "Connected and Protected." Those are the bywords for Toronto-based Diversinet, whose MobiSecure platform enables the deployment of mHealth apps to mobile devices, linking patients, providers and payers.

"The healthcare industry has to be automated at the hospital and in the clinician's office," said Hussam Mahgoub, Diversinet's senior vice president for corporate development and research. "And it has to be connected. There is no reason, if someone is sick, and they travel on vacation from Chicago to Florida, that a physician in Florida shouldn't be able to access that patient's records, even if they're stored in Chicago."

MobiSecure has gone through some significant evolutions over the past years – most recently in February, when it was upgraded with a suite of more than 50 new features, including support for new mobile devices, enhanced security features and new ways to help physicians and clinicians meet meaningful use. Diversinet (booth #927) will be showcasing those advancements at ATA 2011.

Applications supported on MobiSecure – which is based on Open AuTHentication (OATH) standards for authentication and uses advanced encryption architecture to meet HIPAA requirements and protect against fraud – can help enable case and disease management, personal health records storage and exchange, appointment scheduling, medication reminders and more.

The recent upgrades have buttressed the MobiSecure Publisher, which facilitates secure, two-way communications and information access, and MobiSecure SMS, a handset client that supports text-based communication.

In addition, MobiSecure Publisher now supports 70 additional models of tablets and smartphones, including the latest releases of the Apple iOS and Android-based platforms, as well as BlackBerry and Windows Mobile devices. It also interoperates with all major mobile and tablet platforms, including Apple, Google, RIM, Microsoft and Java.

"One challenge we see is the fragmentation in terms of devices and operating systems," said Maghoub. "There are so many operating systems that exist in the mobile space. Relative to the desktop, where you have only one operating system and one browser, more or less, on the mobile side there are so many competing systems, so many devices – and they keep coming: every quarter, it seems you have 50 or 70 new devices coming to the market."

The latest app to leverage MobiSecure Publisher and MobiSecure SMS is the HIPAA-compliant Clinical Communicator, which enables doctors, nurses and other clinicians to communicate securely with their patients via mobile devices and tablets.

Announced in March and available for trials in June, Clinical Communicator is a secure "productivity tool," said Maghoub, that automates appointment scheduling and confirmation, internal clinician communication, lab results, remote monitoring via third-party biomedical devices, real-time video conferencing and more.

"Healthcare organizations often rely on fragmented and disparate systems with information that resides in silos, making secure collaboration and communication difficult," said Albert Wahbe, Diversinet's CEO, in a statement. "The Clinical Communicator gives time-challenged health professionals a tool to deliver the right information at the right time, making it faster and easier to communicate with patients and collaborate across the healthcare ecosystem."