

Huntington Memorial Hospital: Connecting a Community

Overview

In 2008, Huntington Memorial Hospital (Huntington Hospital), a not-for-profit community hospital in Pasadena, California, realised that it needed a modern, scalable integration engine to support and connect its various health information systems and applications. After an extensive review of solutions available in the market, Huntington Hospital decided to implement Orion Health™ Rhapsody® Integration Engine to feed its health information exchange (HIE) initiatives and support the hospital's mission to more efficiently utilise resources.

An Integration Challenge

From 2004 through 2014, Huntington Hospital leveraged MEDITECH as its EMR system and needed a single integration engine to connect its disparate health information systems and applications. Unfortunately, a custom, point-to-point solution would be very expensive to build, prone to connectivity issues, and may also limit flexibility in the future. Huntington Hospital also would have needed to create a full team dedicated to identifying and resolving technical integration challenges, a time-consuming and costly issue.

Huntington Hospital's Integration Engine Checklist

As Huntington Hospital began researching and evaluating available integration technology platforms, they determined that they needed a versatile, scalable, easy-to-use solution that would be both comprehensive and flexible enough to support unknown future projects and market requirements. Huntington Hospital also did not want to be held captive to its EMR vendor for all its integration needs, as that could raise future concerns from an economical or efficiency standpoint.

Additionally, the hospital needed an integration engine partner that demonstrated a "future proof" capability, with modern and flexible interfaces and standards that would support its existing and future workflows and needs. This was amply demonstrated during Huntington's upgrade to Cerner Millennium, where placing integration outside of the EMR reduced expenses and decreased the risk involved with integrating Cerner with the hospital's portfolio of third-party applications and partners.

After evaluating other integration solutions in the market, Huntington Hospital determined that Orion Health



Huntington Hospital

LOCATION	Pasadena, California
WEBSITE	www.huntingtonhospital.com
ORGANISATION TYPE	A not-for-profit community hospital
BEDS	625 beds
INPATIENT & OUTPATIENT VISITS P/YEAR	28,773 Inpatient visits 146,023 Outpatient visits
PRODUCT IMPLEMENTED	Orion Health Rhapsody Integration Engine
KEY BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enrich the data and expand the data warehouse by getting real-time information that will ultimately enable better decisions and yield better clinical outcomes

Rhapsody Integration Engine was the most scalable, manageable, flexible and proven technology available and its leadership felt confident that the technology would also drive the greatest cost savings. The organisation also determined that Rhapsody was relatively easy to develop in leveraging a well-known language, JavaScript and could capture and replay messages.

The Heart of Huntington Hospital's IT Infrastructure

Rhapsody Integration Engine provides a comprehensive set of tools to simplify complex healthcare interoperability. For example, Rhapsody is the first integration engine to implement the exciting new HL7® FHIR® standard.

JSON and HTTP Rest support within Rhapsody routes can enable organisations to use these generically, and to start implementing FHIR-based interfaces.

Huntington Hospital decided to leverage Orion Health's application monitoring services meaning employees monitor the solution 24/7. This ensures optimal performance as the employees who monitor the product know more about it than anyone else, since they are the ones that built it. It also eliminates the need for Huntington to dedicate additional staff to the project.

Huntington Hospital also selected Orion Health's Rhapsody Managed Services offering so that professionals could monitor, optimize, and upgrade the Rhapsody solution. Using state-of-the-art tools and "Eyes on Glass" in global monitoring centers, Rhapsody professionals constantly review the systems' performance and stability, and proactively engage to make adjustments and keep end-users up and running 24x7, and ensure that when something goes wrong it is immediately fixed.

Efficiency is King at a Community Hospital

Like many non-for-profit community hospitals, Huntington Hospital needs to be efficient with its limited resources. By implementing Rhapsody and Orion Health's application monitoring services, the hospital was able to pivot internal resources to other activities, resulting in significant cost savings. They are currently able to function with less than one employee dedicated to Rhapsody.

"Rhapsody is like a Swiss army knife. It is purposefully built with a laser-like focus that only requires employee intervention when a foreign system goes down," said Henry Jenkins, Director of Information Services at Huntington Hospital."

Prior to implementing Rhapsody, Huntington Hospital spent thousands of dollars on point-to-point interfaces developed and maintained by third parties. Since then, the hospital has seen significant workflow improvements and has been able to expand its data integration strategies through Orion Health's flexible technology.

Supporting a Connected Community

Huntington Hospital went live with the Huntington Health eConnect (HHeC) HIE in 2013, a comprehensive community record in part powered by the Rhapsody Integration Engine which enables more than 700 independent physicians in 145 practices throughout California's San Gabriel Valley to securely collaborate and coordinate patient care. Rhapsody takes data from medical partners within the community and the hospital's EMR to feed the HHeC community record, connecting all significant internal clinical applications and constituencies.

Future Proofing

As Huntington Hospital begins to collaborate more and more with other organizations, they have an increased need to be able to share and receive both clinical and claims data in real time, which is a capability that an integration engine like Rhapsody enables. As the hospital continues to address the impact of health care reform, accountable care and pay for performance, Rhapsody is a key part of Huntington Hospital's portfolio of solutions.

Huntington Hospital follows HL7 standards today, but realizes that they may need to adapt to other standards in the future. As such, they need to partner with vendors that can adapt and innovate quickly in order for the organization to innovate as well. Orion Health has made investments to ensure its technology always embeds today's standards while being prepared for the protocols of tomorrow and the unknown of the future. Knowing that Rhapsody will support those capabilities ensures Huntington Hospital that the investment they made is worthwhile. Wherever the industry and new standards take them, they are confident Rhapsody's flexible and reliable integration technology will put them at the forefront of healthcare innovation.

Today, while the healthcare industry buzzes about big data, Huntington Hospital is focused on "smart data," or using data in a manner that makes an organization smarter around financial and clinical operations within and beyond the four walls of the organization. Rhapsody is helping Huntington enrich its data and expand its data warehouse by getting real-time information that will ultimately enable better decisions and yield better clinical outcomes.

Orion Health

Rhapsody enables healthcare organisations to quickly and easily progress toward interoperability between healthcare IT systems, regardless of technology or standards. It is used by thousands of around the world, including hospitals, public health agencies, health information exchanges (HIE), and health plans.

Find out more at:
orionhealth.com

Rhapsody™ Integration Engine is intended only for the electronic transfer, storage, or display of medical device data, or the electronic conversion of such data from one format to another in accordance with a preset specification as specified in the product manual and/or related documentation. Rhapsody Integration Engine is not intended to be used for active patient monitoring, controlling or altering the functions or parameters of any medical device, or any other purpose relating to data obtained directly or indirectly from a medical device other than the transfer, storage, and conversion of such data from one format to another in accordance with preset specifications. Orion Health makes no warranties and the functionality described within may change without notice. Rhapsody™ is a registered trademark of Orion Health™ Limited, manufactured in New Zealand, by Orion Health Limited. All other trademarks displayed in this document are the property of Orion Health or their respective owners, and may not be used without written permission of the owner. Rhapsody Integration Engine is not intended to be used for diagnostic purposes, or to replace clinical judgment or responsibilities. All patient information shown in any imagery is for representation and demonstration purposes only and is not related to a real patient.