

Advertisement

Intel®  
Health Guide

The next  
generation  
in remote  
health  
management.

LEARN MORE >



Intel  
Health

new  
products

Philips Lifeline  
with Auto Alert

Help for when you've  
fallen, can't get up—  
and can't tell anyone

- Enhanced medical alert service with automatic fall detection capabilities.
- The only pendant-style help button that can automatically call for help if a fall is detected and wearer is unable to make the call themselves."
- Reduces risk of "long lie" times by improving speed of aid to fall victims.
- Subscribers can still receive quick assistance even if they lose consciousness, become immobilized, forget to push help button or simply don't because they think they can "handle the situation."

To learn more:  
[Royal Philips Electronics](#)



Advertisement



**On-demand video interpreting**  
Most languages including sign language  
Find out more at [www.lifelinks.net](http://www.lifelinks.net)



July 23, 2010

### U.S. colleges to begin mass health IT training to meet 'meaningful use' needs

This fall, more than 80 U.S. community colleges and universities will begin using \$144 million in federal grant money to train healthcare information technology workers for doctors and hospitals making the switch to electronic health records (EHRs). According to Dr. Charles Friedman, chief scientific officer at the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology in Washington, D.C., an estimated 50,000 trainees are needed to meet demands created by the government's "meaningful use" incentives. These hirings are in addition to people already being trained in existing IT programs in U.S. universities, Friedman said. The training programs are aimed at people who already have healthcare or IT backgrounds: a six-month certification version for healthcare IT workers can be trained at community colleges, and a one- to three-year version for persons requiring university training, such as senior clinician leaders, privacy and security specialists, and research and development scientists. A list of participating schools can be found at [www.healthit.hhs.gov](http://www.healthit.hhs.gov). [Full Story](#) [Further Information](#)

### Virtual e-Hospital Trains Albanian telemedicine team

This month, July 2010, marks the first Albanian Leadership Telemedicine Training program conducted by the International Virtual e-Hospital, an Alaskan Foundation. The training was part of a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) award to build a sustainable telemedicine program in Albania. This program includes a national center at the Tirana University Hospital and 13 Regional Telemedicine Centers throughout the country. Faculty included: Rifat Latifi, M.D., Ronald C. Merrell, M.D., Charles R. Doarn, M.B.A., Ronald S. Weinstein, M.D., Ana Maria Lopez, M.D., Elizabeth Krupinski, Ph.D., Achyut Bhattacharyya, M.D., Gail Barker, Ph.D., Ismet Lecaj, M.D. and Flamur Bekteshi. [Full Story](#) [Further Information](#)

### VA, Defense Department to develop lifetime virtual EHR for veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) are developing a lifetime electronic health record (EHR) for military members. According to the VA's newly released "Strategic Plan 2010-2014," the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) will allow patients to control access to certain elements of their medical records, including diagnoses, laboratory results and medication lists. The plan includes development of a "more patient-centric model," improved infrastructure, and a leveraged EHR system. VLER is one of 13 high-priority items for the VA. Others include automating disability and GI Bill claims and benefits processing, and deploying a Veterans Relationship Management Program across all VA phone centers and Web sites to make all VA services and benefits available by phone and Web site by June 2011. VA and DoD want to launch portions of VLER nationally by 2012. [Full Story](#)

### Stay-at-home robotic 'coach' can help overweight people stick to their diets

A newly developed robot sits on your kitchen counter and supports you in your quest for weight loss through daily conversations. According to Cory Kidd, co-founder and chief executive of Intuitive Automata Inc., the company's "Autom" robot acts as a coach, encouraging people to stay on their diets. Dieters start off with Autom by entering the details of their diet and exercise into the robot. "She" sits on a countertop and is programmed to hold daily "conversations" with the user, Kidd said in a *Wall Street Journal* report. The company's research has shown that users continue with Autom's programs, which provide feedback and encouragement, longer than most diets, even after the novelty of using a robot wears off, Kidd noted. Intuitive Automata hopes to launch the product in the U.S. in 2011 after completing a pilot program, he added. [Full Story](#) [Further Information](#)

### IBM, Peking University build China's first data-sharing patient care system

IBM and Peking University People's Hospital (PUPH) have built China's first evidence-based patient-centric care system, or ePC3, designed to enable cooperation and resource sharing among medical services providers for improved patient care. The ePC3 system aims to provide a comprehensive overview of patients' health data, as well as best practices from previous diagnoses, treatment and research. An intended result is to reduce medical errors and enable better interactions with patients and increase physicians' effectiveness. People's Hospital will also be able to create an electronic health record system for patients. Healthcare in China, particularly in remote cities, is often inaccessible and expensive. The Chinese government has pledged \$124 billion toward healthcare reform for China's 1.3 billion citizens by next year. [Full Story](#)

### Surgical telemonitoring system to allow surgeons to provide virtual training

InTouch Health has released a surgical telemonitoring system that enables a surgeon to be "virtually" present while training other surgeons. The RP-Vantage system is reported to combine the company's Remote Presence technology with multiple camera "vantage points" tailored for surgical telemonitoring and remote procedure collaboration in operating and procedure rooms. The company purports that with RP-Vantage, a remote surgeon can avoid the time, cost and inconvenience of travel and be virtually present to train and collaborate with on-site surgeons. The product is aimed to accelerate adoption of innovative medical devices and procedures in a safe manner and drive improved clinical outcomes. [Full Story](#)

### Center for Tech and Aging awards \$500,000 in home monitoring grants

The Center for Technology and Aging (CTA) has awarded \$500,000 in grants to several healthcare organizations that plan to test the quality of remote home monitoring and improve chronic disease management and post-acute care. According to CTA Director David Lindeman, each project involves a coordinated effort among patients, families and caregivers. The recipients - Sharp HealthCare Foundation in San Diego, New England Healthcare Institute in Cambridge, MA, AltaMed Health Services in Los Angeles and the Stamford Hospital in Stamford, Conn.; Centura Health At Home in Denver; and California Association for Health Services at Home Foundation in Sacramento, CA - will each receive or share \$100,000 and will be supplemented with more than \$1.7 million in matching funds from various agencies. Development of remote patient technologies will "make a huge difference in the quality of life for those living with chronic conditions," Lindeman said. [Full Story](#)

**India, China to benefit from international plan for new imaging services**  
Project HOPE, RAD-AID International and Philips Healthcare are collaborating on a project to improve access to medical imaging services for people in medically underserved areas of northern India and western China. According to John P. Howe III, M.D., president and chief executive officer of Project HOPE, the partnership focuses on partnering health facilities, and is designed to "expand and optimize vital medical imaging services as a component of HOPE's healthcare programs." The service also addresses economic development, technology implementation and optimized clinical applications, for assessing and planning sustainable long-term medical imaging in communities with limited health care resources. The project aims to eventually expand to other emerging and developing nations. [Full Story](#)

#### **Glucose monitoring device can also be used to track diabetes in pets**

A University of Missouri researcher has found a new use for a continuous glucose monitoring device typically used to track diabetes in humans: track the course of the disease in dogs and other animals as well. According to Charles Wiedmeyer, assistant professor of clinical pathology in the MU College of Veterinary Medicine, the device, which provides a detailed glucose picture of an animal over several days, will help pet owners manage diabetes in dogs, cats, cows and horses. The device, produced by insulin pump maker Medtronic, sits under the skin between the shoulder blades of an animal and records blood glucose data every five minutes. Wiedmeyer said he hopes that other companies will start producing continuous glucose monitoring devices specifically designed for animals. [Full Story](#)

#### **New Web site enables patients to obtain bids for medical care**

A new Web site is providing patients who seek medical treatment for various medical problems with the ability to request bids from about 3,000 physicians worldwide in an effort to avoid long wait times and obtain experimental treatments. The site, MediBid.com, provides information on location, price of treatment, where physicians attended school, and how quickly a patient can obtain an appointment, according to MediBid President and Chief Executive Officer Ralph Weber. About 80 American and Canadian patients each day use the site. Patients create free profiles by answering basic health questions and providing information on their medical needs, such as knee replacements or dental cleanings. Patients then receive a list of providers and can request a cash-price quote for services. "We're just trying to give people access and choice," Weber said. But the idea doesn't sit well with many doctors, who note that complex care such as surgeries should not merely go to the lowest bidder. [Full Story](#) [Further Information](#)

#### **HHS to create public database on most-effective medical treatments**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) plans to develop a national inventory of research on the most-effective treatments and medical interventions for patients. According to a Request for Information posted on the Federal Register, the inventory will be a "living document" that provides Web-based access to the public, including patients, clinicians, and policymakers, to the latest research records, resources on methods and training efforts. The goal of the research is to "improve health outcomes by developing and circulating evidenced-based information to patients and clinicians about which treatment methods are most valuable," according to HHS. The agency is also seeking public comment on design of the inventory database; interested persons should submit comments to HHS at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) by Aug. 9. [Full Story](#)

#### **Physicians' e-prescription use doubles nationwide from 2008 to 2009**

The percentage of physicians across the nation who prescribe medication electronically more than doubled between 2008 and 2009, according to a report by insurance company Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. However, only 1 in 4 doctors use e-prescriptions in the insurers' home state of New York. The number is expected to grow regionally and nationally as systems become more affordable and as government incentives to encourage use of health information technology take effect, the report notes. The report states that besides reducing errors, e-prescribing increases the use of less-expensive generic drugs, provides greater security, prevents "doctor shopping" and illegal prescribing, and is more efficient for patients, providers and pharmacists. The benefits would also save insurance companies money. [Full Story](#)

### **Movers & SHAKERS**



**Jim Doyle**, Governor of Wisconsin, announced the names of non-profit health organizations that will receive a combined \$1 million in grants from Wisconsin's Universal Service Fund Telemedicine program...**Hassan Bahej**, general manager for Cisco Morocco, and **Anthony Vonsee**, managing director for Cisco North Africa Levant, announced that the Casablanca office now offers the Cisco TelePresence exchanges...**Mike Thompson**, U.S. Representative from California, received the "2010 Legacy Award" from the California Medical Association in part because of legislation funding for a comprehensive telemedicine initiative, the North Coast Telemedicine Network...**David E. Lindsey**, president and CEO of AmeriDoc, LLC, and **Rey Colon**, AmeriDoc's chief marketing officer, announced the consumer direct telemedicine service has moved its corporate offices from Sunrise, Florida to Plano, Texas...**Steve Heatherly**, chief strategy officer and VP of Ambulatory Services for MedWest Health System (Sylva, N.C), announced the company selected the AllScripts Electronic Health Record and Practice Management solution for its 60 employed doctors as well as more than 200 independent doctors in their area...**Brendan FitzGerald**, research director for CapSite, announced the publication of its "2010 U.S. Ambulatory Electronic Health Records Certification Study"... **Ron Sandreth**, operations manager for the Louis A. Johnson Veterans Affairs Medical Center's (Clarksburg, W.Va.) community and rural health program, announced they plan to add at least six other V.A. medical centers in the region to already existing telehealth programs...**Dr. Jeffrey Bennett**, director of the Southern Illinois University's psychiatry residency program, discusses the psychiatric telemedicine applications being used between the university and Mason District, a public hospital, in The State Journal-Register...**Dave Johnson**, marketing director of American Educational Telecommunications, announced a global alliance with Ft. Myers, Florida-based The Florida Sleep School...**Richard H. Aubut**, president and CEO of South Shore Hospital (South Weymouth, MA), commented on a report that computer files containing the personal health information of 800,000 people may have been lost while in transit to be destroyed....[Please send us](#) your news on Movers and Shakers in the field.

### **Upcoming EVENTS**

- **Global TeleHealth 2010**  
November 10-12, 2010 - Perth, Western Australia  
[More Info](#)

To showcase your event here, please email us at [events@telemedicinealerts.com](mailto:events@telemedicinealerts.com)

Please note, you are subscribed to **Telemedicine News Alert** at [sateesh\\_bobby@yahoo.co.in](mailto:sateesh_bobby@yahoo.co.in). If you also receive the **News Alert** at an alternate email please [Send us an email](#) and enter the email address(es) to be removed.

reviewed journal of record.

The peer-reviewed publication, *Telemedicine and e-Health*, is published 10 times a year in print and online covering all aspects of clinical telemedicine practice, technical advances, enabling technologies, education, health policy and regulation and biomedical and health services research. The journal also deals with the clinical effectiveness, efficacy and safety of telemedicine and its effects on quality, cost and accessibility of care, medical records and transmission of same. For complete information and to subscribe, [check out our website](#).

[Learn More and Subscribe](#)



*Telemedicine and e-Health* is an Official Journal of the American Telemedicine Association.

**IMPORTANT!** Make sure you receive your chosen *Mary Ann Liebert* e-Newsletters, alerts and news updates. Add [telem@liebertpub.com](mailto:telem@liebertpub.com) to your Address Book or Safe Senders List. It's easy! **View instructions** [HERE](#).

[Forward Alert to a Colleague](#)

**For advertising**

[Contact us to maximize your print and/or online opportunities](#)

This email was sent by: **Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.**  
140 Huguenot Street, 3rd Floor, New Rochelle, NY 10801-5215, USA  
**Phone:** 914-740-2100 or 1-800-M-LIEBERT **Fax:** 914-740-2101 **Email:** [info@liebertpub.com](mailto:info@liebertpub.com)

Please use the following links to [Manage Subscriptions](#) or [Unsubscribe](#)  
If your personal information has changed, please [Update Your Profile here](#).

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.  publishers