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# Announcements

**Telehealth 2003 - CST-SCT Annual Conference 2003**

The Office of Health and the Information Highway (OHIH) will be at the [Canadian Society of Telehealth 2003 conference](#) being held October 5-7 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Please drop by our booth (#17) and learn more about our program and services. Let us give you a personal tour of our Web site and databases. We look forward to meeting you.

As well, OHIH staff will be involved in the following activities at the conference.

Monday, October 6   7:00 am - 8:15 am Breakfast Roundtable #9
     "Getting the Message Out - How to Promote Telehealth to Policy Program, and Community
     Audiences"
     Roundtable Facilitator: Sandra Chatterton, Senior Policy Advisor, Canada Health
     Infostructure Partnership Program (CHIPP), Health Canada.

Tuesday, October 7   10:05 am - 11:05 am "Views from the Field"
     Among the speakers: Anthony Chu, Director, Innovation and Investment Division, Health
     Canada.

**Canadian eHealth Initiatives Database**

In our June issue, we announced that the Office of Health and the Information Highway (Health
Canada) and the Canadian Society of Telehealth were collaborating in the development of the
Canadian eHealth Initiatives Database.

The database contains information on Canadian initiatives and programs in the areas of telehealth,
electronic health records, education and training, and health information infrastructure. Currently
there are over 250 initiatives.

Keeping the database up to date is an ongoing activity; however, we are embarking on a
concentrated effort to ensure that the database is as informative, authoritative and current as
possible. If you are the contact person for an initiative in the database, you may have received (or
you may soon receive) a letter from us regarding specific initiatives, asking if you could review the
information that we have and update or modify it as necessary. We greatly appreciate your
assistance in this activity.

If you are involved in an initiative that is not included in the database, we would love to hear from
you too. Please contact Gabriel Lepkey via email at Gabriel_Lepkey@hc-sc.gc.ca.

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**Conferences**

Conferences happening in the next 4 months in Canada and the United States, that focus on information and communications technologies in health, health informatics, health information management, health technology assessment, and privacy. Access all of the upcoming Conferences listed on our site (including conferences from around the world and into 2004).

**October 2003**

October 1, 2003. **Health Information Management - COACH Workshop.** (Toronto, Ontario, Canada.) http://www.coachorg.com/downloads/him_-_october_1_registration_form.pdf

October 5-7, 2003. **Telehealth 2003 : The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Telehealth.** (Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.) http://www.cst-sct.org/conference.php

October 7, 2003. **Electronic Health Record - COACH Workshop.** (Richmond, British Columbia, Canada.) http://www.coachorg.com/downloads/ehr_-_oct_7_registration_form.pdf

October 8, 2003. **Health Privacy and Security - COACH Workshop.** (Richmond, British Columbia, Canada.) http://www.coachorg.com/downloads/p_s_-_october_8_registration_form.pdf

October 19-23, 2003. **Future of Rural Peoples: Rural Economy, Healthy People, Environment, Rural Communities -- Fifth International Symposium.** (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.) http://iareh.usask.ca/symposium2003/index.php

October 21-22, 2003. **Information Management and Technology for Healthcare : Determining the ROI of your EHR while Complying with Privacy Laws.** (Toronto, Ontario, Canada.) http://www.healthandpharma.com/cgi-bin/templates/1059665099 13571166992100002/genevent.html?topic=176&event=3685

October 21-22, 2003. **Third Annual National Forum Managing Privacy and Security of Health Information.** (Toronto, Ontario, Canada.) http://www.canadianinstitute.com/contentframes.cfm?ID=2250

October 24-26, 2003. **Weekend Immersion in Nursing Informatics (WINI).** (Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.) http://www.onig.on.ca/index.php?module=PostCalendar&func=view& viewtype=details&eid=19

October 27-28, 2003.  **Les renseignements personnels dans le domaine de la santé.** (Montreal, Québec, Canada.) http://www.insightinfo.com/conferences/brochures/brochure.cfm?product_code=HCC03458

October 27-29, 2003.  **Partnership Symposium and HL7 Canada Autumn 2003 Event.** (Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.) http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=event_partner_oct03_e

## November 2003

November 6-7, 2003.  **Nursing Informatics: The Key to the Future.** (Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada.) http://www.nsnig.ca/bulletinBoard.html

November 14, 2003.  **Electronic Health Record - COACH Workshop.** (Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.) http://www.coachorg.com/downloads/ehr_-_nov_14_registration_form.pdf

November 16-18, 2003.  **Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention (MICCAI) 2003 : The Sixth Annual International Conference.** (Montreal, Québec, Canada.) http://www.miccai2003.org/

## December 2003

December 4-5, 2003.  **Canada's Second Annual Summit on Wireless Healthcare Technology.** (Toronto, Ontario, Canada.) http://www.strategyinstitute.com/wless.html

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# Electronic Documents

New publications including government white papers and reports, industry publications, and periodical articles, which are available for free on the Internet, and which are published by authoritative sources. Access more than 2600 publications via the searchable eHealth Online Literature Catalogue.

**Are Feds Supplying the Spark for Electronic Records Adoption?**
Goedert, Joseph.  Health Data Management, August 2003.
http://www.healthdatamanagement.com/html/current/PastIssueStory.cfm?PostID=15743&PastMonth=August&PastYear=2003

## ATA 2003 Annual Meeting : Selected Presentations

United States : American Telemedicine Association, 2003.

http://www.atmeda.org/news/selected2003.htm#Concurrent

## Canada's Military Starts on Large-scale Electronic Patient Record Project

Shaw, Andy.  Canadian Healthcare Technology, June/July 2003.

http://www.canhealth.com/jul03.html#anchor31953

## CHUS Produces One of Canada's First Working Healthcare Data Warehouses

Canadian Healthcare Technology, June/July 2003.

http://www.canhealth.com/jul03.html#anchor30996

## EU-Canada e-Health Initiative Final Report

Jennett, Penny and The EU-Canada e-Health Initiative Secretariat Office.  Canada : University of Calgary, 2003.

http://www.stakes.info/eucan/Final%20Report/EUCanadaFinal.doc

## EU-Canada e-Health Initiative Workshop 2003

Canada : University of Calgary, 2003.

http://www.stakes.info/eucan/Wrap%20Up%20event.htm

## EU-Canada Workshop : Industry Partners and Market Opportunities in E-Health

Canada : University of Calgary, 2003.

http://www.stakes.info/eucan/Industry%20Workshop.htm

## Feasibility Study of Multidisciplinary Oncology Rounds by Videoconference for Surgeons in Remote Locales

Gagliardi, Anna et al.  BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making, v3 n7, June 19, 2003.

http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6947/3/7

## To Hype is Human

Gunasekaran, Suresh et al.  Healthcare Informatics, August 2003, p49-51.

The authors outline the challenges in computerized physician order entry (CPOE) implementation and offer strategies in eliminating medical errors.

http://www.healthcare-informatics.com/issues/2003/08_03/hype.htm

## Interstate Licensure for Telenursing

Wachter, Glenn.  United States : Telemedicine Research Centre, 2002.

http://tie.telemed.org/legal/licensure/telenursing_licensure0502.pdf

## Moving Toward Electronic Health Information Exchange : Interim Report on the Santa Barbara County Data Exchange

Brailer, David J. et al.  United States : California HealthCare Foundation, 2003.
http://www.chcf.org/documents/ihealth/SBCCDEInterimReport.pdf

## Ontario Hospitals Enlist I.T. in Battle against SARS

Daniel, Dianne.  Canadian Healthcare Technology, June/July 2003.
http://www.canhealth.com/jul03.html#anchor29796

## Open-Source Software : Just What the Doctor Ordered?

Bush, Jennifer.  Family Practice Management, v10 n6, 2003.
http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/457401/

## Partners in Cancer Care : Building a Quality Improvement Coalition : 2002 - 2007 Information Management Strategic Plan - Final Report

Cancer Care Ontario. Canada : Cancer Care Ontario, 2002.
http://www.cancercare.on.ca/pdf/IMStrategy02-07.pdf

## Reduced Errors Ahead

Hagland, Mark.  Healthcare Informatics, August 2003, p31-42.
The author discusses IT tools supporting patient safety initiatives, such as computerized physician order entry (CPOE), clinical decision support, and bar coding.
http://www.healthcare-informatics.com/issues/2003/08_03/cover.htm

## A Review of the Costs of Telepsychiatry

Hyler, Steven E. and Gangure, Dinu P.  Psychiatric Services, v54 n7, July 2003, p976-980.
http://psychservices.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/reprint/54/7/976.pdf

## Saving Money, Saving Lives

Scalet, Sarah D.  CIO Magazine, August 1, 2003.
This article provides examples of implementations of electronic health record and computerized physician order entry systems, including the obstacles encountered and the resulting benefits.
http://www.cio.com/archive/080103/saving.html

## Smooth Flow

Dopp, Annette.  Health Management Technology, August 2003.
This article describes implementation of an integrated operating room management system for a health care network and the resulting benefits.
http://www.healthmgttech.com/archives/h0803smooth.htm

**Socio-Economic, Policy and Technical Impact of Telehealth : Telehealth Research Summer Institute 2002 : Discussion Document**

      Hebert, Marilynne et al.  Canada : University of Calgary, 2002.

      http://www.fp.ucalgary.ca/telehealth/TRSI_2002_Discussion_
Document_Hebert.pdf


**Tablet PCs Heed Nurses' Needs**

      Schuerenberg, Beckie Kelly.  Health Data Management, August 2003.

      http://www.healthdatamanagement.com/html/current/PastIssueStory.cfm?
PostID=15746&PastMonth=August&PastYear=2003


**Telemedicine in Educational Settings**

      Newton, Heather.  Nursing Standard, v17 n44, July 16, 2003, p75-80.

      http://www.nursing-standard.co.uk/archives/vol17-44/pdfs/v17n44p
7580.pdf


**Telemental Health/Telepsychiatry Operations and Implementation Manual for County Mental Health Plans**

      California Institute for Mental Health.  United States : California Institute for Mental Health, 2002.

      http://www.cimh.org/downloads/TMManual.pdf


**Wireless : Just What the Doctor Ordered**

      Gruman, Galen.  CIO Magazine, August 1, 2003.

      http://www.cio.com/archive/080103/mobile.html

# Funding Opportunities

Current funding opportunities for health research on the use of information and communications technologies in health, which are open to Canadian researchers. Access all of the Funding Opportunities listed on our site.

**Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation**

      Health Research Project Grants  New!

      http://www.nshrf.ca/grants/grants-health.shtml

**Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation**

Collaborative Health Research Program  New!

http://www.nshrf.ca/grants/grants-health.shtml

The deadline for the following Funding Programs is coming up during October or in the beginning of November:

**Canada Foundation for Innovation**

New Opportunities Fund

http://www.innovation.ca/programs/index.cfm?websiteid=57

**Canadian Institutes of Health Research**

CIHR/Rx&D Research Program

http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/services/7296.shtml

**Canadian Institutes of Health Research**

Industry Partnerships Programs

http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/services/7289.shtml

**Canadian Institutes of Health Research**

Operating Grants with Community Involvement

http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/services/15876.shtml

**Hospital for Sick Children Foundation**

New Investigators Grants Competition

http://www.sickkids.ca/foundation/custom/grt_newinv_default.asp

**National Institutes of Health**

Telehealth Interventions to Improve Clinical Nursing Care

http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-00-138.html

**National Research Council Canada**

NRC-BC S&T Fund: Research Exchange Awards (REAs)

http://www2.britishcouncil.org/canada/canada-science/

canada-science-joint_science_and_technology_fund.htm

## Initiatives

Selected initiatives that profile Canadian telehealth, electronic health record, education, privacy and health information infrastructure projects and programs. Access the full descriptions of more than 250 initiatives via the Canadian eHealth Initiatives Database.

**Alberta First Nations TeleHealth Program (AFNTP).** Lead Organization : Canada. Health Canada. First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/phcph/telehealth/alberta_telehealth.htm

**Alberta Wait List Registry.** Lead Organization : Alberta Health and Wellness
http://www.health.gov.ab.ca/wait_list/index.html

**British Columbia Surgical Wait List Registry.** Lead Organization : British Columbia. Ministry of Health Services
http://www.hlth.gov.bc.ca/waitlist/

**Clinical Trials Information Service (CTIS).** Lead Organization : Ontario Cancer Research Network
http://www.cancercare.on.ca/collaborativeprojects/wardropctis.html

**Diagnostic Imaging Systems (Fraser Health Authority).** Lead Organization : Canada Health Infoway Inc.
http://www.infoway-inforoute.ca/news-events/index.php?loc=20030708&lang=en

**Health Link (Alberta).** Lead Organization : Alberta Health and Wellness
http://www.crha-health.ab.ca/healthlink/

**Image Quality Control of Display Systems.** Lead Organization : Centre for Global eHealth Innovation
http://www.uhnres.utoronto.ca/ehealth/html/what/eh_what_projects_display_
systems.shtml

**Pallium.**
http://www.pallium.ca/

**Web-Based Service for Professionals to Transform Learning into Practice.** Lead Organization : Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
http://www.canarie.ca/press/releases/03_07_09.html

The latest issues of electronic journals which are available for free on the Internet, and which are published by authoritative sources. Access the full list of Electronic Periodicals.

**Advance for Imaging and Oncology Administrators Online.**  Latest Issue : v3 n18, September 4, 2003.
http://www.advanceforioa.com/Main.aspx

**ATSP Online.**  Latest Issue : September 5, 2003.
http://www.atsp.org

**BMJ.**  Latest Issue : v327 n7415, September 13, 2003.
http://bmj.bmjjournals.com/current.shtml

**BMJ Medical Informatics : Information in Practice.**  Latest Issue : August 30, 2003.
http://bmj.com/cgi/collection/information_in_practice

**BMJ Medical Informatics : World Wide Web.**  Latest Issue : August 30, 2003.
http://bmj.com/cgi/collection/WWW

**Canadian Healthcare Technology.**  Latest Issue : September 2003.
http://www.canhealth.com/current%20issue.html

**Canadian Medical Association Journal (eCMAJ).**  Latest Issue : v169 n6, September 16, 2003.
http://www.cmaj.ca/content/vol169/issue6/

**COR e-Health Trend Watch.**  Latest Issue : September 12, 2003.
http://www.corhealth.com/TrendWatch.asp

**Drug Information Journal.**  Latest Issue :v37 n3, July-September, 2003.
http://www.diahome.org/docs/Journal/DIAJournal.cfm?PageID=dij37_3

**eHealth Update.**  Latest Issue : July-August 2003.
http://206.222.94.60/QuickPlace/ehealth/Main.nsf/$defaultview/
C6B5592F367F732B85256D910025B4AC/$File/July_Aug.pdf?
OpenElement

**Federal Telemedicine Update.**  Latest Issue : September 16, 2003.
http://www.federaltelemedicine.com/n091603.htm

**Health Data Management.**  Latest Issue : September 2003.
http://www.healthdatamanagement.com/html/current/index.cfm

**Health ICT Headlines.**  Latest Issue : September 11, 2003.
http://www.chik.com.au/newsletter/index.php

**Health ICT News.**  Latest Issue : August 14, 2003.
http://www.chik.com.au/newsletter/view_news.php?id=253

**Health Informatics Europe.**  Latest Issue : September 2, 2003.
http://www.hi-europe.info/new.htm

**Health Informatics Zone.**  Latest Issue : September 15, 2003.
http://www.nhsia.nhs.uk/def/home_info.asp

**Health Management Technology.**  Latest Issue : September 2003.
http://www.healthmgttech.com/

**Healthcare Informatics Online.**  Latest Issue : September 2003.
http://www.healthcare-informatics.com/issues/2003/09_03/sep.htm

**i-Health Media Watch.**  Latest Issue : September 10, 2003.
http://www.hinz.org.nz/ihealth/Media-Watch.htm

**The Informatics Review.**  Latest Issue : v6 n18, September 15, 2003.
http://www.informatics-review.com/

**JAMA.**  Latest Issue : v290 n11, September 17, 2003.
http://jama.ama-assn.org/current.dtl

**Journal of AHIMA Public Article Archive.**  Latest Issue : September 2, 2003.
http://library.ahima.org/xpedio/groups/public/documents/web_assets/
bok1_016845.hcst

**Journal of Healthcare Information Management.**  Latest Issue : v17 n3, Summer 2003.
http://www.himss.org/asp/publications_jhim_issue.asp?issue=6/1/2003

**Military Medical Technology Online.**  Latest Issue : v7 n5, August 9, 2003.
http://www.mmt-kmi.com/articles.cfm

**Partnership for Health Information Standards.**  Latest Issue : n17, Summer 2003.
http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/dispPage.jsp?cw_page=news_partnership_
current_e

**Telehealth Focus.**  Latest Issue : n9, June 2003.
http://www.telehealth.health.wa.gov.au/documents/June%2003%20TH%20
Focus%20newsletter.pdf

**Telemedicine Information Exchange News.**  Latest Issue : September 4, 2003.
http://tie.telemed.org/news/

**Virtual Medical Worlds Monthly.**  Latest Issue : n9, September 2003.
http://www.hoise.com/vmw/03/articles/index.html

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## Northern Connections: NORTH Network improves healthcare across Ontario (ON)

It's just past midnight as the jangling phone rouses a Toronto neurologist, alerting him to a crisis 300 kilometres away. An elderly woman has passed out in North Bay, Ont., a possible victim of stroke. Within minutes, the neurologist can see the patient on his home computer screen, examine digital images of her brain, and advise the local emergency physician on the best course of treatment.

"The neurologist can look at this information and use it to see whether the patient would be a candidate for clot-busting drugs," explains Dr. Ed Brown, an emergency doctor overseeing this futuristic new application called Tele-stroke. "The objective is to ensure that potential stroke patients, even in faraway parts of the province, can be seen by specialists within three hours." Tele-stroke is the first emergency telehealth service and the newest member of a family of telehealth applications that form part of the Northern Ontario Remote Telecommunications Health (NORTH) Network, an ambitious project that uses technology to bring medical services to First Nations communities, small villages and rural and remote areas.

"What we have is probably the most advanced network of its kind in the world," says Brown, the project's executive director.

While Tele-stroke is still in its pilot stage, the network's other elements have become well established since the network began in 1998. Administered from Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre in Toronto, the NORTH Network now treats more than 300 patients a month and is growing quickly. It offers medical services in about 40 specialities, such as eye and skin care, orthopedic surgery and psychiatry.

The program's goal is to eliminate distance as a barrier to care for people outside major urban centres. Mid-sized cities such as Timmins, Thunder Bay, Sudbury and North Bay also benefit: While establishing them as referral centres for more remote towns, the network also connects them with leading specialists in big hospitals like the Hospital for Sick Children and Sunnybrook & Women's Health and Science Centre.

Linking more than 75 sites in Central and Northern Ontario, the network knits together dozens of institutions, partners such as the Northern Academic Health Science Network and Keewaytinook Okimakanak Tribal Council, and funding sources, including $8.5 million under the Canada Health Infostructure Partnerships Program.

### Quick Facts

**Challenge**

- Eliminate distance as a barrier to care for people who reside outside major urban centres

**Solution**

- Implement telehealth services and applications
- Link institutions and partners

**Benefits**

- Rural doctors can consult with specialists
- Patients can be treated in their community

Supported locally by a medical director and a telehealth co-ordinator, NORTH Network sites boast a range of sophisticated tools that are used to collect information about patients and send it to a referral centre for assessment over secure Internet protocol links. For instance, digital instruments monitor heart and breath sounds, peek into ears and throats, capture X-ray and camera images, and take close-ups of the retina of the eye. Video-conferencing technology also allows people to see and talk to each other.

In addition to patient care, the technology helps health professionals toiling in remote areas. Video-conferencing, for instance, allows rural doctors to consult with specialists or participate in continuing education.

"We have huge under-serviced areas in Ontario, with terrible shortages of physicians," Brown notes. "We want people to go up there, and then to stay, and we know that this kind of training and support improves recruitment and retention up North." Brown says patients have also embraced telehealth technology, because they can be treated in their own communities.

"People love the fact that they can get their care at home, and not have to go on a major pilgrimage. It saves time, money and hardship, and avoids a lot of driving through dangerous conditions."

Read more eHealth Success Stories from across Canada.

**"OHIH's mandate is to serve as Health Canada's focal point for ehealth, multi-channel government service delivery, and privacy."**

Access all of the eHealth resources our Web site at http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ohih-bsi/res/index_e.html

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