

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO



We are thrilled to report that CareConnect has been making significant strides and gaining industry recognition over the past few months. With a growing presence at conferences and other prominent events, we've enjoyed much positive attention and exposure.

THE BHF CONFERENCE

We had a fantastic experience at the recent BHF conference, where we had the opportunity to engage with key players in the medical schemes industry. While we may not have won the grand prize, being nominated by BHF for a Titanium award in the category of 'Excellence in Creating Access to Healthcare' was a great honour. This recognition has firmly put CareConnect on the map and highlights the industry's acknowledgement of the impact Health Information Exchange can have on improving our health system's efficiencies. We extend our congratulations to Bestmed for winning the award.



Lewellyn Moodley (Head of BD) and Dr Rolan Christian (CEO) at BHF

Another notable achievement was the nomination of our article titled 'Fostering a digitally enabled healthcare system through health information exchange' for the 'Best Paper' award by BHF. This article explores the importance of interoperability in a fragmented health system, such as South Africa's, and emphasises the potential of HIE platforms in accelerating access to healthcare and sparking transformative innovation. We congratulate Nichola Naude of Dischem for winning the award with her article titled 'Who is the primary healthcare practitioner really, and how can we use this resource to build capacity for the appropriate level of care?'

THE ASAIPA SMART HEALTH SUMMIT

Clinicians play a critical role in the success of CareConnect, and to this end we are engaging with clinician groupings as part of our Clinician Engagement Strategy. We have prioritised collaboration with societies like the SA Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (SASOG), The Critical Care Society of Southern Africa (CCSSA), the SA Private Practitioner's Forum (SAPPF), and others.

It was therefore an honour for CareConnect to be invited as a speaker at the first Smart Health Summit, an ASAIPA event predominantly aimed at health service providers. I spoke on 'Interoperability and Seamless Data Exchange: Unlocking the Full Potential of Smart Health'. I also had the opportunity to represent CareConnect on a panel discussion on cybersecurity.

Clinician feedback during and post the event was very positive, and we have already started to engage with clinicians who want to gain access to the HIE and collaborate on specific projects.



INTERSYSTEMS GLOBAL SUMMIT

June 2023 marked a significant step in CareConnect's journey when our Chief Technology Executive, Allan Macfarlane, and I were invited to attend the InterSystems Global Summit in a very sunny Miami, USA. This event provided a significant opportunity to represent CareConnect and to interact with leading HIEs and providers from across the globe, on the shared challenges and triumphs that unite us all in the mission to revolutionise healthcare.

During the summit, we had the pleasure of engaging with numerous HIEs operating across the USA, as well as hospital and insurance providers. Central to all of these discussions was a shared objective: maximising the capabilities of HIEs not just for data exchange, but also to create services that benefit all participants involved. Key to achieving this is to be able to provide a level of reporting that caters for both specific cohorts and entire populations.

I also had the honour of participating on a panel titled: 'Building the Data Infrastructure to Care for the Future'. In

this vibrant discourse, I shared our approach and progress, and learnt about the strategic directions and technical efforts of other global players. One of the most interesting insights that emerged was that the CareConnect HIE has progressed much faster than its US counterparts did in delivering a similar set of services. This was a reaffirming realisation and is a testament to the robust support we've received from our Founding Members and the South African healthcare industry.

This experience was not just about sharing and receiving knowledge, but also about validating our progress and mapping our future steps. We have returned with a bolstered sense of commitment to continue to push boundaries, innovate, and deliver impactful services to our participants.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to InterSystems for their warm welcome in Miami, and for creating a forum where minds from across the globe can come together to improve healthcare.



ENHANCING CARECONNECT'S VALUE PROPOSITION

We're pleased to report that the development of the 'alert' feature is now in progress. This added functionality, which informs participants about patient admissions and discharges, is expected to enhance the overall utility and value derived from our HIE system.

In parallel, we're in the process of developing various additional use cases that will substantially enhance the HIE value proposition for all our participants. At the core of our ongoing endeavours are:

Allergies and adverse reactions: We are working on standardising the severity categorisation for allergies and adverse reactions. This development is expected to improve the precision of patient records and enhance the safety of care.

Data enhancements: We are working towards supplementing scheme data about prescribed medications. The enhancements include information about dosage (if available), frequency, strength, and active ingredients.

Diagnosis-medication linking: We're linking diagnoses with the ATC codes system to establish a connection between prescribed medications and diagnosed conditions. This correlation can significantly aid in understanding and improving treatment effectiveness.

We trust that these enhancements, when launched this year, will contribute to a more user-friendly platform, streamlining the healthcare delivery process and bolstering the value for all participants.