PEARL %

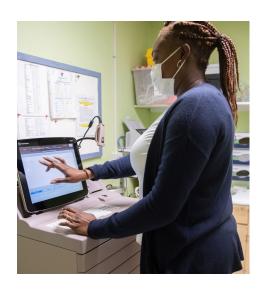
Project background and overview

We are making an exciting improvement in how we care for patients with the planned implementation of an integrated electronic medical record (EMR) across BHB services. Called PEARL (Patient Electronic & Administrative Records Log), it will replace older and less reliable processes of communicating, storing information and referring, scheduling and ordering, such as paper, fax and fragmented, as well as department-specific systems. BHB staff will use the EMR to access a single electronic record for each patient that is integrated across BHB services and locations.



Why is BHB moving to an EMR?

BHB has to replace its main clinical system, and the replacement in today's world is an electronic medical record. To maximise the benefits of the EMR, it will also replace a number of other systems at BHB so that our clinical systems are all integrated. An integrated EMR enables healthcare teams to coordinate care around the patient, with access to data that supports decision-making and treatment options. Scheduling, ordering and referrals will all be actioned through the EMR - everything you need to care for someone in one place. It will help us improve patient care and efficiency, meaning quality gets better and costs are controlled. The first phase of implementing the EMR within BHB goes live on 29 October. A second phase includes a patient and community physician portal. Planning for this phase starts in September. An EMR is a significant investment of money and effort, but it will help us improve care and patient outcomes, faster, automate processes and access data on which to plan and shape our future services. This helps us control our costs in the face of ever more complex and demanding care needs.



How was Cerner's Millennium selected as BHB's EMR?

After an RFP process involving over 100 staff, Cerner's Millennium was selected as our EMR product. It is one of the leading EMRs in the US, where 99% of hospitals now use EMRs. With extensive experience in implementation and supporting clinical services, BHB is already using multiple Cerner systems, so we know each other well.



Project Timeline:

November 2018

Vendor research and selection process commences

July 2019

Cerner selected as the preferred vendor. Multiple demos arranged for frontline staff and leaders.

April 2021 to March 2022

Full implementation with front line staff involved in designing, testing and building

Fall/Winter 2022/23

Go-Live/completion of the BHB EMR implementation (phase one)



Outline business case approved and over 100 BHB staff attend and provide feedback on vendor demos

November 2019

Full Business Case approved by Board.

Year long delay in the project caused by COVID-19.

Spring-Summer 2022

Organisation-wide testing and training of staff for the EMR





& ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS LOG





Staff will use PEARL, to deliver safer, higher quality, more streamlined, patient-centred care. Currently our staff are hampered by old forms of communicating and fragmented systems. PEARL supports us in our vision to pursue excellence through improvement, to make Bermuda proud.

With PEARL, BHB healthcare professionals will be supported in decision making and care activities, with immediate access to complete medical histories and they can collaborate, communicate and refer to other departments seamlessly. This will facilitate much better coordination between services, including between MWI and KEMH. Once the internal system is up and running, a second phase of the project is planned to give patients and their community doctors access their information, supporting transitions from hospital to other healthcare providers. We will be able to build even stronger partnerships internally and externally.

Safety alerts will flag issues, such as missing tests or potential medication interactions. Better data will also help us more effectively shape services and reach those most in need. PEARL will also be used in support areas, such as imaging services, pathology and pharmacy, as well as in administration, for billing and finance. The goal is to achieve operational excellence that supports streamlined and efficient processes across BHB.

Wherever we can modernise our processes to benefit our patients we will. When PEARL is implemented, staff will have a tool that supports delivering better care, better outcomes and more efficient processes. This will help us improve the health of our community and reduce the cost burden of care for all Bermuda.

Implementing PEARL will also be a significant move in line with technology used world wide by hospitals, and opens up new opportunities for using digital solutions to better care for and reach those most in need.



A fully integrated BHB EMR: how will we get there?

BHB has established an EMR project governance structure to oversee and coordinate the project. Throughout implementation, special workflow groups comprising BHB and Cerner staff have been working on BHB's transition to an integrated EMR, with support from experts in EMR implementation, benefits realisation and assurance, S&P and Channel 3.

Workflow changes will affect BHB staff members across locations and services - clinical, support and administration. Engaging staff in the process and keeping them informed is at the heart of making this project work. Many staff will be involved in testing the system to make sure we are ready to go live. Training and coaching started in June 2022 and support will continue past go-live while staff adjust to the new way of working.





What role do staff play in achieving EMR success at BHB?

BHB staff are playing defining roles in implementing PEARL. This is critical for the project to succeed. About 400 staff are participating in workshops that will plan, build and test PEARL and as super users who will be in-department experts to support the transition. PEARL is a tool for staff to use to make care safer, more effective and more efficient. From design through to testing and training, staff members are at the heart of the project.

