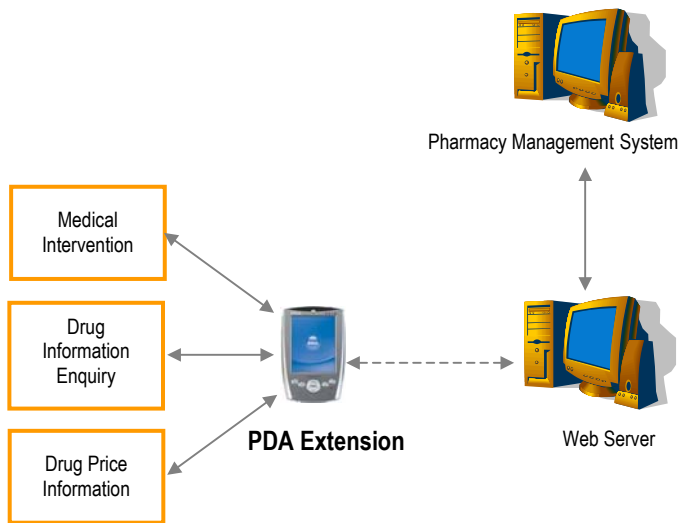


Introduction

Mobile computing has become an integral part in many spheres of life. Healthcare is no exception. The convenience it brings to day-to-day activities is immense.

Healthcare applications are now increasingly using (Personal Digital Assistants) PDA as an additional means of data capture and enquiry. Many applications now have PDA based solutions to enhance existing applications. Based on users requirements, Eutech has developed PDA extension for the Pharmacy Management system. The solution includes the following:



Background

During their wards rounds, doctors prescribe medications for inpatients. This information is usually, noted down manually on paper medical records and then has to be keyed into the Pharmacy system for the drugs to be dispensed. This process can be error prone apart from the fact that there is dual entry for every prescription.

This time consuming process was the catalyst that prompted the need for a PDA in the wards. As the first step, it has been decided to capture medication interventions made by pharmacist during their ward rounds.

Medication Intervention system

This system is used to record details of inpatient medication interventions initiated by the pharmacist during ward rounds or inpatient medication record (IMR) review.

System allows medication intervention records to be uploaded into central database from which weekly/monthly reports can be generated. It also provides searching previously saved records.

Monthly statistics report shows total number of intervention, number of patients involved, class of medication, acceptance rate and impact of intervention.



Drug Information Enquiry System

This system provides facilities to record basic details of all drug enquiries handled by inpatient pharmacists during normal work hours as well as by on-call pharmacists after normal working hours.

System allows data to be uploaded into central database from which weekly/monthly reports can be generated.

Monthly report includes drug enquiry statistics such as number of enquiries received, urgency of enquiry, types of enquiry, time taken to complete drug enquiry, etc.



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Drug Price Information System

Pharmacists use this system to view the details of drug price information. Pharmacists can search the information based on Item Description, Product class number and Product Class description.



Patient List

Patient List search screen helps pharmacists to search inpatients' general information. The search is based on Hospital Registration Number (HRN) and/or Ward Number.

From the search results screen, pharmacists can select patient and initiate medication intervention record.



Future Applications

There are many other areas that applications running on PDA can play a major role in healthcare applications. Some of these areas that have been identified are:

- Prescriptions: Writing prescriptions & orders on hand-held devices by doctors during their ward rounds. Wirelessly transmitting them to pharmacy, thereby having the medication ready for the patients.
- In-Patient return for the dispensed drugs can also be handled.
- Medication History

- In-patient drug monitoring
- Retail ordering of patient's medicine
- Scheduling and patient information; diagnosis and procedure recording at the point of care
- Tracking patient information, simplifying ICD coding, keeping rounds lists and notes, and allowing printing of reports, encounters and rounds
- Storing patient data (labs, tests, demographics, etc.), tracks medications, maintains to-do lists
- Inpatient and outpatient tracking

Key Features

- Capture medication interventions records
- Capture drug information enquiry records
- Retrieve drug price information
- Retrieve inpatients information
- Allow online/offline operations
- Various statistical reports
- Online Help

Benefits

- Automates the manual/paper based data entry workflow of the pharmacists
- Minimizes data entry errors
- Provides mobile access to the Pharmacy database

Other modules in Copernicus™ Suite

- Hospital Information System
- Specialist Outpatient Clinic Information System (SOCIS)
- Pharmacy Management System
- Purchase Order & Inventory System
- Accident & Emergency System
- Mammography System
- Operating Room Scheduling System
- Clinical Workstation System
- Electronic Medical Records
- Generic HL7 Engine

For more details on Copernicus™ and Eutech's client references contact:
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