Kingdom of Bahrain
Ministry of Health

HID INFO line

The
Ministry of Health
Information Systems Project

Accountability for healthcare delivery and expenditure has resulted in the Ministry of Health Information Technology Project. Information technology plays a major role in enabling the business and management of healthcare initiatives to be achieved. The foundation of re-engineering and modernization is the implementation of an evidence-based management that requires a total restructuring and redevelopment of its information and automation strategies and systems.

Major accomplishments with the project have been achieved through a collaborative approach, which involves representatives from several ministries; the Ministry of Finance (MoFNE), Central Statistics Organization (CSO), Civil Service Bureau (CSB). This strategy is critical to ensure that Information Technology (IT) initiatives in the different ministries are complementary and compliant, both from a technical and business perspective.

The scope of the project will include the technical infrastructure for network and hardware, as well as 45 subprojects covering National, Healthcare, Healthcare support, Financial, Human Resource, and other Business applications. Process reengineering, change management and training will all be included as part of the project to ensure that the business and people are aligned with the IT changes.

The strategic plan was developed and a detailed Request For Information was distributed in October to 57 international, regional and local vendors. Based on the responses, the criterion for evaluation of selecting and contracting a vendor was set out.

In July, 2001, approval was received from MoFNE to tender. The RFP was completed and approved by the Ministries, and the RFP tender was launched on September 9th, 2001. An orientation for vendors was held on September 29th, with representatives from Ministry of Health Business.....

Site visit team discussing one of the systems.

A word to say

First of all I would like to thank all the contributors who helped in publishing the first edition of *HID InfoLine* . This achievement has enabled the Health Information Directorate(HID) to establish a new communication channel with the Healthcare community in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This opportunity will be utilized to broadcast Information that would be useful and Informative in the area of Health Information.

Both Information and communication were always powerful tools for decision making in any organization and Healthcare in particular is one of the major consumers of information.

Healthcare workers need quality information on timely bases, and we at HID aim to continue in supporting this need. Technology has increased the amount of health information available to the public, allowing the public to become better educated and more involved in their own health care.

Therefore, healthcare workers will need to be better prepared for this challenge and need to utilize the power of information for their advantage.

I believe that this newsletter will be a useful start to help the Healthcare workers, where the newsletter will cover issues related to Health Information. Finally we at HID welcome all of your contributions and suggestions to make this newsletter useful to all.

AHMED AL-HUJAIRY
HID DIRECTOR

Internet & Intranet news

By IIG Group*

MoH intranet web site has been launched since June 2001. It serves as a mean of communication and exchanging information between MoH employees. The site is structured so that each directorate/department should have thier own section. Following are the available sections: MoH main, A&E, DEM, HID, DMM, DT, MED, Nursing and Ophthalmology. The features of web sites include: department history, services, human resources, news, event calendars and photo galleries. Most of the sites also have business forms that can be downloaded and filled. Others have on-line forms that can be filled and processed electronically like that of the DEM as a way to speed business processes and cut down paper usage. MoH intranet is also an accurate source for different publication and statistical information.

A new project was kicked off on September 2002 named "Intranet Evaluation & Enhancement (IEE)". The objectives of IEE includes evaluating MoH Intranet website as well as developing web sites for all medical functions in MoH. Along with developing a new web sites, this project also focuses on marketing IIG services to the rest of MoH and giving them the opportunity to participate in such a vast technology.

Health Statistics 2001 report

By Amal Al-Arrayed*

Health Statistics Report contains statistics and health indicators, which illustrate the Health Status and the commitment to facilitate the provision of health care services to all nationals and residents of Bahrain. The data presented in the reports are collected from all Ministry of Health peripherals, Bahrain Defense Force, Private Hospitals and other health institutes in the country by publication group at Health Information Directorate. These data highlights the population characteristics, their demographic, epidemics and health status. The directorate main concern is that the accuracy of the published data, on time and has a full coverage of the health status. The report is available now on the MoH Intranet and the Ministry of Health web site, it is also available on CD.

This issue sponsored by

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The Ministry of Health Information Systems Project (cont'd page 1)

areas greeting and answering questions. A Value Added Study, product demonstrations and site visits were conducted from April to July with a final evaluation document presented to the Minister, MOFNE and CSO the end of July2002.

The Ministry of Health is very excited about its approval for the MHIS project, and the results will greatly impact the next few years, not only the people in the Ministry of Health, but the citizens of Bahrain.

On behalf of the Health Information Directorate, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Ministry of Health participants in the MHIS project. Your professional expertise and devotion to providing a better healthcare system is an indicator of the potential success of the project when we implement. Thank you.

BY:
AVIS PINCOCK
HID ADVISOR
MHIS PROJECT MANAGER

Be our guest...!

By Fakhriya Hashim*

In a recent contact with Mr. Sameer Allawi, Head of Medical Records Department (MRD) at Salmaniya Medical Complex, regarding the co-operation between the Health Information Directorate (HID) and SMC MRD in Information Technology (IT) in providing automated facilities, he said that "The Medical Records Department (MRD) at Salmaniya Medical Complex is currently having an electronic access to the following systems through Health Information Directorate (HID).

Mr. Sameer Allawi

1. Admission, Transfer and Discharge (ATD) system
2. Outpatient Appointment (OPD) system
3. Waiting List System (WLS)

This automated process started since 1990 where the first section to be automated was the Admission Section."

Before 1990, SMC MRD processes were being handled manually. Processes like scheduling of appointments, registration, collecting/preparing statistics and generating reports were done manually and printed using electric typewriters. " The advantages of automation were several but the most important were: Better provision of services to patients, accurate and valid information is presented, and increase the quality of services provided to all customers of the Medical Records Department" He said.

Automation of SMC MRD was a valuable resource for the Ministry of Health which linked and synchronized SMC MRD with some of the Health Centers for Primary Health Care. Patients were facilitated to book an appointment from SMC as well as from Health Centers.

He also added that such co-operation between these two Directorates resulted in a speedy, efficient and smooth health care facilities for the patients.

Finally, he said that HID and SMC MRD have more than 10 years old history of co-operation and they have developed a strong relation with each other in the process of automation and modifying the system. This co-operation provided the MRD the ability to provide a high quality services to patients and accurate information to requestors.

Fakhriya: Administrative Analyst, Publication Section

On going projects ▶▶▶

Electronic Medical Library

By Maban Mansoori*

Due to the huge role of Internet and new technologies in providing information in the health care, the demand of implementing an Electronic Medical Library and providing an Internet access has increased at Ministry of Health departments. It is used to improve the quality and leadership of the Health Information professional in order to foster to the art and science of health inforamtion services.

The aim of this project is to provide one or more pool computers at each Medical department (Primary and Secondary Health Care) . The concerned computer must be connected to MoH network, and have Internet access to be able to provide it with the Electronic Medical Libraries (Glas System) and e-journals (Proquest and MD Consult) .

This Computer will be available 24hours X 7days as a shared computer by all health professional in that department.

The following benefits will be derived when implementation is completed:

☐ Global Medical and health information will be accessible to all doctors and health professionals within MoH.

☐ All the Medical Departments at MoH will have at least one PC connected to Internet.

☐ Provide assistance to the Medical students through the key learning resources.

☐ Enrich the MoH employees with the latest researches and studies.

Maban: Computer System Analyst, EMLI Project Manager

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Web Site to Visit

International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC):
Part of the World Health Organization, it is responsible of coordinating and conducting researches on the causes of human cancer, the mechanisms of carcinogen sis, and the development of scientific strategies for cancer control.
http://www.iarc.fr/

Keep in mind

Never regret things that you have tried, always regret things that you have never tried.

FUN CORNER .....!!!!

Girll's puppy was growing fast in the first five days since she got it. It had eaten 100 dog biscuits, if each day it had eaten six more than the previous day how many biscuits had it eaten on the first day.

Find the solution online at MoH intranet, in Health Information Directorate Intranet web site on the following address:
intranet.gov.bh\hid\hid.html#challenge.

HID Socials

HID Social Committee Organized a one day trip to Gulf Air Club for HID staff and their families. The activity included lunch and snacks. The program of the trip covered sports, educational games and puzzles. At the end of the day the committee distributed the prizes among the games winners.