Client Success Story

Brookings Health System

Leveraging Summit InSync for Dictionary Management and Synchronization

CLIENT

Brookings Health System - A community health network with a 49-bed inpatient facility and supporting clinics.

CHALLENGE

With migration to Meditech 5.64, Brookings Health System's MIS customer defined screens would have to be manually inputted into new test system requiring tedious data entry and room for transcription errors.

SOLUTION

Summit InSync was implemented to synchronize dictionaries between test and live environments including those MIS customer defined entries from the old test system.

RESULTS

• The health system is currently synchronizing 20 dictionaries across multiple departments.

• Staff save 1-4 hrs of work for every dictionary synchronization

PROFILE

Brookings Health System includes a 49-bed hospital, a 79-bed skilled patient nursing center, an eye care center and two clinics that reach out to the local community. Based in South Dakota, Brookings Health System is committed to a patient-centric view of care that serves the region with a core vision on striving for excellence, integrity, accountability and passion in all aspects of care.

Investing in technology to improve care is another area of emphasis for the organization, but achieving all these goals on the scale needed by the health system requires considerable innovation. As a result, Brookings Health System invested Meditech as their primary HIS system in 2008 and continue to move through a natural migration path to ensure they are running the latest technology that best suits their facility. Currently they are running Meditech C/S 5.64. Most recently, Brookings Health System was one of forty rural health networks to receive a national grant and will be using these funds to support a community health information exchange.

CHALLENGE

When preparing for their upgrade to Meditech C/S 5.64, the health system learned that a variety of MIS customer defined screens would not be copied into their new test ring. This would require hours of manual data entry by an IT staff member to input the data into to the new system. MIS touched multiple dictionaries from Pharmacy to Nursing to Financials so the importance of this data was felt enterprise wide.

Aside from the immediate need to migrate data there was also a desired need to maintain accurate dictionaries between test and live moving forward. Untested changes made directly to the live Meditech environment can prevent staff from being able to properly document on patients, so the team more than ever stressed the importance of ensuring all changes were made in the test environment first and live second. Implementing this change control process, however, would require constant double entry of data.

SOLUTION

Brookings Health System began a search to find a vendor proficient in the Meditech space that could provide technology to support dictionary management and synchronization. They knew it was going to be much more than just pure scripting and found what they were looking for in Summit InSync. Summit InSync proved to be the answer to the operational problems experienced by Brookings Health System by eliminating double data entry while setting up a foundation to ensure the dictionaries would remain synchronized moving forward.

Summit InSync provides the health system with the ability to directly extract the dictionary data including advanced filtering to ensure they are working with the data sets they desire. The extracted data is then presented in an intuitive color coded analysis allowing for easy recognition of those records that are out of synch. Automation technology is built right into Summit InSync so once the discrepancies have been identified, the desired changes are scripted into the Brookings Health System's respective test or live Meditech environments leveraging the Summit Scripting Toolkit.

RESULTS

Brookings Health System is now using Summit InSync across the hospital enterprise running approximately 20 dictionary synchronizations. Sample dictionaries include Pharmacy drug, Laboratory test, PCS care provider, Order Entry order sets, B/AR procedures, GL accounts and multiple MIS customer defined screens.

The widespread implementation of Summit InSync across the various departments and dictionaries in use by Brookings Health System has also led to considerable operational gains. While the organization is only beginning to formally document these benefits, it estimates that between one and four hours of data entry are saved for each dictionary that is currently being synchronized. Furthermore, implementing Summit InSync has decreased the potential for data transcription errors in their dictionaries resulting in a stronger foundation and overall confidence in their Meditech system.

"Implementing Summit InSync has helped us elevate our care procedures to better align with our overarching company goals. In the Brookings Health System, we strive to create a patient-centric care paradigm that is backed by the best technologies available. Innovative IT systems are key in enabling a better patient experience, and implementing Summit InSync has helped us free staff from menial work, giving them more time to focus on what really matters, serving our patients," **said Ryan Wuellner, Senior Information Systems Analyst, Brookings Health System**

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