

Newsletter

April 2009

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SWAHS Electronic Bed Board Licensed to ACT Health and the Department of Human Services, Victoria

Bed managers no longer have to walk around their wards each day manually counting beds. At Westmead Hospital it was recognised that there was a need to identify capacity and demand on hospital occupancy and this information needed to be made available to a wide range of people at any time. Thus the Electronic Bed Board (EBB) was developed and implemented at Westmead Hospital. The aim of the Bed Board application is to support the Patient Flow Unit within each hospital with a business tool that assists the management of bed capacity and patient flow planning. The overall plan was to develop a web based information screen that would provide each hospital with the hourly bed capacity status. The Bed Board is managed via a web and database server that allows all hospitals within the state to login and access this information.

Advantages of the Bed Board:

- Highly customised tool to meet the operational, predictive, planning, reporting and bed management needs
- Hourly data providing information for decision-

- making, on all aspects of demand for beds and the capacity
- Area and State-wide overview tool
- Flagging of key factors impacting on access block
- Improved communication and recording
- Monitoring and communicating state-wide inter-hospital patient transfers
- Proactive planning – 24 hours in advance – for capacity and demand issues

As a result of the EBB, currency of information

has vastly improved and the system has now been rolled out statewide across NSW. Recently the system has

been licensed to both ACT Health and the Department of Human Services, Victoria.

HAS YOUR RESEARCH LED TO AN INVENTION?

Has it solved a problem that has been baffling others? Could it become a target for a new drug? Could it be a new drug or a new use for an old drug? A diagnostic test? A new device? If so, it may be patentable!

The Office of Commercialisation looks after IP and research commercialisation for SWAHS and is located at Westmead Hospital. It is managed by BioMed North Limited, a not-for-profit research commercialisation agency with over twenty years experience in commercialising research. We are actively looking for research results that may have commercial potential. If your findings are novel, involve an inventive step not obvious to your peers, and are useful, please contact us.

DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE AN INVENTION? OR DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT RESEARCH COMMERCIALISATION - CONTACT THE OFFICE OF COMMERCIALISATION

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SWAHS CE Speaks at Inaugural NHSC IP Conference

On 1st April, 2009 Professor Steven Boyages spoke on 'The Role of Innovation in Improving Patient Care at SWAHS' at the Inaugural ACT Health Industries IP Management and Commercialisation Conference presented by The National Health Sciences Centre Ltd and held at The Canberra Hospital, Canberra, ACT.



The Chief Sponsor of the Conference was ACT Health, and other sponsors included Spruson & Ferguson, BioMed North Ltd, Australian Institute for Commercialisation, and Labtek Pty Ltd.

Attendees included broad representation from Industry, Government departments involved in IP commercialisation, Departments of Health, Hospitals, Research Institutes, Universities and Service Providers. There was also interest from interstate with delegates from WA, QLD, NSW, VIC and SA.

CE Innovation Forum

The initial CE Innovation Forum for 2009 took place on 14th April 2009. Ms Simone Jordan, Deputy Chief



Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer at the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement, spoke on the topic of 'Transforming Healthcare for NHS Patients: The role of the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement'. The NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement supports the NHS

to transform healthcare for patients and the public by rapidly developing and spreading new ways of working, new technology and world class leadership throughout England and other parts of the United Kingdom.

The Institute in partnership with the health sector has applied a nationally coordinated focus to the biggest challenges to NHS service delivery.

What is Intellectual Property?

Intellectual Property (IP) is often considered to be only patents and trademarks but it is important to note that IP is a collective term and includes seven different forms of IP.

• Copyright Confidential Information

Confidential information is information and materials of a commercial nature (and may include information of a personal or commercial nature) that is not readily available to the public.

Example: Laboratory or Design Workbooks, Trade Secrets

• Copyright

Copyright is a form of IP that protects the expression of an idea, but not the idea itself. In Australia, copyright is governed by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) where an exclusive set of rights are automatically granted upon creation of an original copyright work for a limited period of time. Example: Databases, Marketing and Promotional materials.

• Domain Names

Domain names are sequences of words which are translations of numeric internet protocol addresses. Example: Web address

• Patents

A patent is a form of IP that protects an invention. A patent grants a set of exclusive rights to the patent owner to commercially exploit the invention for a limited period of time. The grant of a patent is governed by the Patents Act 1990 (Cth) in Australia. Example: Biological Materials (methods & uses)

• Plant Breeder's Rights

Plant Breeder's Rights is a form of IP that protects a registered plant variety. In Australia, plant breeder's rights are governed by the Plant Breeder's Rights Act 1994 (Cth) where an exclusive set of rights are granted to the registered owner for limited period of time. Example: Plant varieties

• Registered Designs

A registered design is a form of IP that protects the overall appearance of a new and distinctive design. In Australia, the Designs Act 2003 (Cth) grants a set of exclusive rights to the registered design owner to commercially exploit the design for a limited period of time. Example: Medical Devices or Biophysical Apparatus

• Trademarks

A trademark is a form of IP that is a 'sign' used in trade to identify and distinguish a business's goods and services from other businesses. Example: Graphical Designs, Words or Names

Extracted from Biotechnology Intellectual Property Management Manual.2008, Blattman, A. et.al.

REMINDER

Have you received an agreement with an Intellectual Property clause within in? Please contact the SWAHS OOC before you sign.

[Contributions to the Office of Commercialisation SWAHS Newsletter - We are happy to publish your contributions, articles, press releases or calls for collaboration. Email the Publisher Ms Lindy Ferris \[lferris@officeofcommercialisation.com\]\(mailto:lferris@officeofcommercialisation.com\) or call 0401 056 555.](#)
