Medical Device Interoperability and the Integrated Clinical Environment

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Problem statement

- It is becoming increasingly clear that many improvements in patient safety, patient care, and healthcare efficiency require systems solutions which cannot be implemented due to the lack of interoperability of medical devices and systems, especially in high-acuity clinical settings.
- We propose that the ability to “integrate the clinical environment” is an essential step to address these issues and create error-resistant systems.

Adverse Events

• An 'event' can be defined as any type of error, mistake, incident, accident, or deviation, regardless of whether or not it results in patient harm.

• 'Patient safety' is defined as the avoidance and prevention of patient injuries or adverse events resulting from the processes of health care delivery.

Source: PHS
Current state

… at the sharp edge of high-acuity patient care …
High-acuity care today:
How do we prevent errors?
How do we keep track of all this?
Demand and complexity will only increase ...

Point-of-Care Medical Devices (wired ⇒ wireless and mobile)

Data Integration, Analysis, and Display

Connectivity challenge extends beyond the OR

Credit: P. Carleton, RN
Mass General Hospital/CIMIT
Operating Room of the Future
Lessons from the OR of the Future: perspective on device and data integration

• Comprehensive integration of data from clinical and environmental systems, can prevent errors and inefficiencies across the continuum of care:
  – Smart Alarms
  – Workflow support
  – Safety Interlocks

• Not limited to the OR: in the ICU, ER, home, etc.
Lessons from the OR of the Future: perspective on device and data integration

• Comprehensive integration of data from clinical and environmental systems, can prevent errors and inefficiencies across the continuum of care:
  – Smart Alarms requires “contextual awareness”
  – Workflow Support requires “closing the loop”
  – Safety Interlocks require system integration
• Not limited to the OR: in the ICU, ER, home, etc.
• All require seamless connectivity
Interoperability => Empowerment

• Cross-vendor standards-based interoperable Consumer Electronics have empowered consumers
  – Created markets and solutions
  – Internet standards brought interoperability to PCs
    • Result -> Google!
  – Consumer Electronics Experience: When you buy a digital camera
    • Purchasing decision: depends on cost, resolution, image stabilization - you no longer worry about connectivity
    • You may do many different things with the camera? Buy big SD card, use USB cable, manipulate jpeg on Mac or Win OS, email, view in browser, etc
    • You ASSUME that STANDARDS and MARKET ensure your needs will be supported!
Interoperability => Empowerment

• Medical System Interoperability Can Create Healthcare Provider Empowerment
  – Allow healthcare institutions to leverage medical devices and IT systems to solve clinical problems, improve patient safety, and improve efficiency … by providing an infrastructure for innovation to create error resistant systems

• Medical Devices have a unique place in the “interoperability ecosystem”
  – 1. Medical Devices are key data sources (to EMR/CIS etc.)
  – 2. Medical devices can be better utilized to deliver care
  – 3. Medical Devices are at the sharp end of patient care. Adverse Events/Near Misses that involve medical devices must be mitigated using medical devices as part of system solutions
Adoption of medical device interoperability framework (standards and technologies) will support:

1. Complete, accurate electronic medical records
2. Reduce errors caused by manually entered data, and provide single “source of truth” for patient ID and other key data
3. Facilitation of disaster preparedness: real-time inventory of medical equipment in-use and national stockpiles
4. Rapid deployment of devices in makeshift emergency care settings
5. Clinical decision support systems and smart clinical alarms
6. Support of remote healthcare delivery
7. Automated system readiness assessment (prior to starting invasive clinical procedures)
8. Increased quality and completeness of international research databases
9. Reduce cost of devices and their integration, and reduce accelerating EMR-adoption costs
10. Closed-loop control of therapeutic devices and safety interlocks (e.g. ventilation, medication and fluid delivery)
Value of data integration:
Landing gear not deployed? -> **Smart ALARM**
“smart” = *high sensitivity and high specificity*

**Contextual awareness** requires data integrated from several device and systems
Examples of clinical procedures that could benefit from interconnected medical devices to address system safety issues ->

(From the MD PnP Program “Clinical Requirements Database”)
Scenario:
Failure to ventilate #1
Cardio-Pulmonary Bypass

Normal routine: Switch from anesthesia machine ventilator to cardiopulmonary bypass machine, and back to ventilator (after bypass)
Failure to Ventilate

- Adverse Anesthetic Outcomes Arising from Gas Delivery Equipment: A Closed Claims Analysis.
  - Anesthesiology. 87(4):741-748, October 1997
- “… In the second case, the anesthesiologist forgot to resume ventilation after separation from cardiopulmonary bypass. The delayed detection of apnea was attributed to the fact that the audible alarms for the pulse oximeter and capnograph had been disabled during bypass and had not been reactivated. Both patients sustained permanent brain damage.”
Cardio-Pulmonary Bypass

Smart system would provide warning if ventilator off and bypass pump flow = 0. Almost every surgical team has experienced this error!
Scenario:
Failure to ventilate #2
Example: Cholecystectomy (Gall Bladder removal) w/ intraop cholangiography

Workflow: 1) Ventilation is stopped. 2) Intraoperative cholangiography (bile duct x-ray) is performed with contrast to identify internal structures.

No breath -> No lung movement. Helps achieve better x-ray quality.
“With the advent of sophisticated anesthesia machines incorporating comprehensive monitoring, it is easy to forget that serious anesthesia mishaps still can and do occur.”

APSF Newsletter Winter 2005

A 32-year-old woman had a laparoscopic cholecystectomy performed under general anesthesia. At the surgeon’s request, a plane film x-ray was shot during a cholangiogram. The anesthesiologist stopped the ventilator for the film. The x-ray technician was unable to remove the film because of its position beneath the table. The anesthesiologist attempted to help her, but found it difficult because the gears on the table had jammed. Finally, the x-ray was removed, and the surgical procedure recommenced. At some point, the anesthesiologist glanced at the EKG and noticed severe bradycardia. He realized he had never restarted the ventilator. This patient ultimately expired.
What are the “root causes”? 

- Inadequate alarms? 
- Inadequate vigilance? 
- At its root, this is a system problem, because the ventilator never should have been turned off…
Synchronize x-ray with ventilator:
@ expiration: cholangiogram, CVP, CO
@ inspiration: routine chest radiograph

In this case, integration of devices into a networked, smarter system can improve safety by avoiding ventilator shut-off, improve image quality (especially on serial images), and decrease re-imaging.


NOT COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE

Solution has been demonstrated in MD PnP Lab
Medical Device “Plug-and-Play”
Interoperability Lab at CIMIT
Cambridge, MA
Opened May 2006
Photos includes collaborators from
MGH, U Penn, and LiveData)
Ventilator - Xray Simulation at ASA Scientific Exhibit

October 15, 2006
Scenario:
Detect/Prevent Hemodynamic Instability from Pneumoperitoneum (Insufflation) during Minimally Invasive Abdominal Surgery
The Problem: Insufflation-induced hemodynamic instability: Initial insufflation of CO$_2$ into the abdomen (peritoneal cavity), especially combined with head-up table tilt (“reverse Trendelenburg Position”), may severely decrease blood pressure and heart rate.
Surprisingly, the occurrence of insufflation-induced bradycardia (low heart rate) and hypotension (low blood pressure) are well known:

Cardiopulmonary complications during laparoscopy: two case reports

“The first case describes a patient who developed bradycardia and asystole [cardiac arrest] during insufflation for a laparoscopic hernia repair.”
Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy (or similar):
What can we do to improve safety?

• Integrate surgical and anesthetic devices to provide:
  – 1. Safety interlock: “can’t insufflate if BP and ECG not actively monitoring”
  – 2. Smart alarms: Contextual information permits high sensitivity and specificity of clinical alarms
  – 3. Control BP monitor: Trigger BP measurement upon insufflation + table tilt
Scenario: Blood Pressure Measurement Errors
Invasive BP Measurement

- Level
- Transducer
- Correct value
Invasive BP display error

(Bed lowered relative to Transducer)

Error: too low
BP Measurement Error


- “When PAOP values were adjusted for the differences from the reference transducer level, the median differences from the reference PAOP values were 2 mmHg (-6 to 9 mmHg) for physicians and 2 mmHg (-6 to 16 mmHg) for nurses”
Automatic BP display correction is possible with currently available bed network data (bed reports changes to height and angle)

UNH/IXXAT/MD PnP collaboration
Demonstrated at HIMSS Feb 07

Solution requires connecting bed and blood pressure monitor

Offset Corrected

NOT COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE
HIMSS 2007 New Orleans, USA: two clinical scenarios demonstrated
Dangers of Postoperative Opioids

APSF Workshop and White Paper Address Prevention of Postoperative Respiratory Complications

Based on APSF Board of Directors Workshop
October 2006
Typical PCA System

Patient can call to request more analgesia, but, cannot call for help when over-medicated.

PCA = Patient-Controlled Analgesia
APSF PCA Recommendations

• “A particularly attractive feature may be the ability to automatically terminate or reduce PCA … infusions when monitoring technology suggests the presence of opioid-induced respiratory depression. To facilitate such capabilities, we strongly endorse the efforts to develop international standards for device interoperability and device-device communication.

• It is critical that any monitoring system be linked to a reliable process to summon a competent health care professional to the patient's bedside in a timely manner.”
Smart PCA monitoring system
American Society of Anesthesiologists
Scientific Exhibit October 2007

Plug-and-play detection of monitors connected to patient,
Permits selection of “best” monitor and alarm algorithm at point of care

Exhibit recognized with First Place award
Which other clinical challenges could be addressed with:

- Plug-and-play device integration with auto-recognition of device type and model
- Identification of all available devices, presentation of relevant smart monitoring algorithms for selection by the clinician, auto-configuration of alarm limits, and targeted remote alarm annunciation
To err is Human:

- Isn’t concerning that adverse events that can be predicted from clinical workflow analysis, may be reported in focus groups, and are documented in the literature, but solutions to mitigate these clinical hazards have not been adopted?

- Why are solutions not being implemented?
  - Because hospital-implemented “one-off” solutions - especially when integrating medical devices - are frequently complicated and expensive, and there are concerns about safety, regulatory compliance, and liability.

- We need a standardized platform to deliver these - and similar - innovative solutions.
What is the scope of effective medical device interoperability?
There are two distinct – but closely related – capabilities of medical device interoperability required to mitigate these hazards:

1. Bidirectional medical device data communication

2. Medical device control capability to permit the integration of medical devices into networks to produce “error-resistant” systems.

“Control” should be defined as exposure of selected features or device functions over the network, to enable classes of clinical scenarios cases. (Example: “activate pre-set ventilatory pause to enable an x-ray”).
Overview of the Medical Device “Plug-and-Play” Interoperability Standardization Program (MD PnP)

MGH and CIMIT, with TATRC support, initiated the MD PnP program in 2004 to lead the adoption of open standards and technology for medical device interoperability to improve patient safety.

Four plenary conferences, working group meetings, and clinical focus groups have elicited input to shape the mission and strategy and identify clinical requirements.

Over 70 institutions and > 600 experts (clinicians and engineers) have participated. Many support provider-mandated conformance to interoperability standards.
MD PnP stakeholder community: key issues must be addressed for adoption of interoperability:

- Must be clinical-requirements based
- **Regulatory** obstacles were perceived
- **Legal** concerns were deal-breakers
- What is the business case(s)?
- No widely adopted standards
- In summary: Interoperability requires many elements to be aligned
Goals of the MD PnP Program

1. Lead the adoption of open standards and related technology to support medical device interoperability

2. Define a regulatory pathway in partnership with the FDA and other regulators.

3. Elicit clinical requirements for the proposed interoperable solutions to maintain focus on patient safety.

4. Use our vendor-neutral laboratory to:
   – evaluate interoperability standards and solutions
   – model clinical use cases (in simulation environment)
   – serve as a resource for medical device interoperability
MD PnP Program Plenary Meetings
2004-2007

- May 24-25, 2004  Kick-Off Symposium: sponsored by TATRC & CIMIT, Cambridge, MA – 84 attendees: 37 from industry, 43 from academic and healthcare institutions, 4 from government agencies
- Nov 15-16, 2004  Second Meeting, hosted by FDA, Rockville, MD – 75 attendees: 31 from industry, 29 from academic and healthcare institutions, 15 from government agencies
- June 6-7, 2005  Symposium: Third Meeting, sponsored by TATRC & CIMIT, Cambridge, MA – 85 attendees: 40 from industry, 40 from academic and healthcare institutions, 3 from government agencies, 2 from engineering societies
- (Presentations are freely available on www.MDPnP.org)
MD PnP Program collaborators

- NIST (National Institute for Standards and Technology)
- NSF (National Science Foundation)
- Society for Technology in Anesthesia
- DocBox
- Philips Healthcare
- Etc.
These limitations are being recognized and addressed …
"APSF believes that intercommunication and interoperability of devices could lead to important advances in patient safety, and that the standards and protocols to allow such seamless intercommunication should be developed fully with these advances in mind.

APSF also recognizes that as in all technologies for patient safety, interoperability poses safety and medicolegal challenges as well. Development of standards and production of interoperable equipment protocols should strike the proper balance to achieve maximum patient safety and outcome benefit."
ASA BOD STATEMENT ON THE INTEROPERABILITY OF MEDICAL DEVICES

“ASA believes that intercommunication and interoperability of electronic medical devices could lead to important advances in patient safety and patient care, and that the standards and protocols to allow such seamless intercommunication should be developed fully with these advances in mind.

ASA also recognizes that, as in all technological advances, interoperability poses safety and medico legal challenges as well. The development of standards and production of interoperable equipment protocols should strike the proper balance to achieve maximum patient safety, efficiency, and outcome benefit.”

February 2008
Kaiser Permanente Contract Language
(24 new hospitals planned in USA)
(in use now)

• **Medical Device Plug and Play.** Supplier agrees to participate with Kaiser in the development of a medical device plug and play integration standard (the "Integration Standard"), and ... will make reasonable efforts to conform to the Integration Standard when approved and formulated by the parties in writing. Until the Integration Standard is approved, Supplier intends to continue ... to provide open interfacing protocols ...
“ICE” - Integrated Clinical Environment

• New standard under development describes requirements for safe and effective “plug-and-play” integration of devices in high-acuity environments

• Draft is under development by MD PnP Program-convened writing group under the direction of ASTM Committee F29
Scope of ICE Part I

• “This International Standard is … for managing a network of medical devices in a medical system in support of a single patient in the integrated clinical environment (ICE)…

• This standard series establishes the general principles for the design, verification, and validation of a model- based integration system that enables the creation of an integrated clinical environment intended to facilitate cross-manufacturer medical device integration…”

Next slides -> draft functional architecture
Figure 1: Functional Elements of the Integrated Clinical Environment

Key
1 patient
2 medical device
3 Equipment
4 ice interface
5 ice network controller
6 data logger
7 ice supervisor
8 ice manager
9 operator (clinician)
10 ICE
11 external interface

From ICE Part I NWIP
September 2007
The ICE _supervisor_ supports the following patient-centric capabilities of the integrated clinical environment

- Provide safety interlocks
- Distribute integrated alarm conditions to relevant operators
- Provide context-aware clinical decision support
- Set command input variables of other medical devices, per operator-defined, context-appropriate rules in order to manage their operation (e.g. change NIBP cycle interval)
- Assess the readiness of medical devices in a clinical environment to support specified functions or clinical workflow
- Perform integration of alarm conditions from multiple medical devices
- Perform automated record keeping
- Support integrated control* of devices

• Control of those features made available through the ICE interface

From ICE Part I NWIP September 2007
Figure 1: Functional Elements of the Integrated Clinical Environment

Key
1. **patient**
2. medical device
3. Equipment
4. ice interface
5. ice network controller
6. data logger
7. ice supervisor
8. ice manager
9. **operator** (clinician)
10. ICE
11. external interface

From ICE Part I NWIP
September 2007
The ICE network controller supports the following patient-centric capabilities of the integrated clinical environment:

- Provide “Plug and Play” (PnP) connectivity with medical devices and other devices
- Interface with equipment that contains an ice equipment interface
- Provide data logs for forensic analysis (flight recorder)
- Perform network control functions independently of the underlying data communication mechanization
- Provide relevant information to support a healthcare equipment management system
- Also provides a common time base and binding of data to patient identity
- Also can provide and retrieve relevant clinical data to a healthcare information system/electronic medical record/electronic health record (HIS/EMR/EHR)

From ICE Part I NWIP September 2007
Some benefits of MD PnP infrastructure in the “Hospital of the Future”

- Network-based inventory of
  - Devices (tens of thousands)
  - Device status, including software/firmware
  - Push device patches/upgrades
  - Could significantly reduce TCO of devices (per Kaiser data)
  - Leverage FDA-promoted UDI (Unique Device ID)
- Reliable, seamless data integration
- Support single “source of truth” for patient ID, time stamps, etc.
- Close workflow loops and support medication safety systems and interlocks
When standardized clinical databases are populated via standardized data and system interfaces, Validated Clinical “Business Rules” will be Shared Globally.

Coupled with tools like “VB for HealthCare” or “LabView for Clinical Care”
This technology will change the world.

J. Goldman, MD 2005-2008
How everyone can contribute:

• **Clinicians** can contribute clinical scenarios (or “use cases”) to ensure that new interoperability standards and technologies will enable meaningful clinical solutions.

• **Healthcare delivery organizations** can specify performance requirements, and require adherence to medical device interoperability language in purchasing contracts.

• **Engineers** can analyze clinical use cases to generate functional specifications, assess current standards to perform gap analyses, and evaluate proposed technologies.

• **Medical device manufacturers** can participate in the development and adoption of interoperability standards.

• **Interoperability promoting organizations** can support revising existing standards to meet clinical requirements.
Implement adoption of integrated healthcare ecosystem by using a roadmap to drive standards, research, and technology solutions:

1. Develop a portfolio of “boilerplate” contract clauses to support adherence to standards, especially the emerging ICE standard, and incorporate into contracts (like Kaiser)- NOW

2. Identify Adverse Events that could be mitigated with MD PnP

3. Expand collection and codification of clinical requirements to ensure that emerging solutions will meet clinical and operational needs

4. Integration of devices produces new systems. A shared test platform and Verification and Validation tools must be developed to assure the safety, performance, and regulatory acceptance of these systems.

5. Facilitate development of commercial products to deliver components of the ICE
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MD PnP Program: www.mdpnp.org

CIMIT www.cimit.org