Workstations

QNET has announced two workstation products for use with the 32bit and 64bit versions of its Patient Information Management System.

QNET Clinical Workstation

The first is a fully functional QNET Clinical Workstation product designed for use with multi-tier client-server information systems architectures. The objective of the QNET Clinical Workstation is to provide patient-centered information for clinicians to allow the assessment, planning and delivery of healthcare to be managed in a manner which advances the interests of the patient and adds to clinical learning.

QNET Clinical Workstation is able to access and maintain data on any server connected to the organization's information systems network using SQL standards. It holds a full library of rules which ensures that the QNET Clinical Workstation interacts in real-time with the QNET server to exchange data automatically, to maintain comprehensive, up-to-date patient information. A rules engine is also provided which allows interconnectivity and database interactions with other data servers to allow the QNET Clinical Workstation to draw on enterprise-wide sources of data to compile and maintain an electronic patient record. In addition to the electronic patient record, the QNET Clinical Workstation provides the following functionalities designed for use by clinicians:

! Clinical assessment tools
! Care plans
! Clinical document storage and retrieval
! Test / procedure ordering and results reporting
! Electronic mail and messaging
! Personal and public diaries
! On-line clinical text books
! Access to public / private information networks

The QNET Clinical Workstation has also been designed to harness technology to aid the clinician's use of the functionality. Technologies incorporated include:

! Integrated data / voice modem
! Integrated interface for connecting remote diagnostic equipment to facilitate telemedicine
! Video conferencing
! Voice activation
! Multimedia storage
! Text-to-voice translation

The QNET Clinical Workstation is also designed to work in integration with Microsoft Office products.

QNET Task Station

The second workstation product is the QNET Task Station which is designed for clinical data capture and retrieval in the direct patient care work setting. Its main objective is to allow busy clinical staff to record essential data for patient and clinical management purposes easily, quickly and unobtrusively at the point of care.

It could be run on a portable device which may be a notebook, palm-held or hand-held in relation to the requirement of the physical dimensions. It has been designed for use with wireless LANS or over the Internet in order to allow mobility to patient care destinations.

The functionality of the QNET Task Station is, as its name suggests, more narrowly based than the QNET Clinical Workstation. Any predefined task may be abstracted to be run on the QNET Task Station. Alternatively, tasks can be defined directly on the device. The common theme is that any task is likely to involve viewing or upgrading patient data held on the QNET Server (or any other server for that matter).

Tasks can be defined around the role of the individual or work group. Nurses working in an in-patient setting, for example, may have the following task set:

! Viewing, monitoring and managing bed state
! Patient charting
! Formulating and delivering care plans

QNET Task Station will be configured to support these tasks and be automatically updated with any status changes arising from work being done or data being changed by others.

The task station has an easy to use interface and is capable of being operated without a keyboard.

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