

# Healthcare Press Release

## Essex Consultant Devises New Technology To Benefit Staff and Patients



A safer and faster way to carry out an assessment on a patient before they undergo an operation has been devised by a consultant based at the Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust, in conjunction with Health Enterprise East (HEE), the NHS innovation hub for the East of England.

Consultant Anaesthetist, Dr Ronan Fenton, has developed a software program for pre-operative assessment that replaces paper records previously used, resulting in a more comprehensive evaluation.

Pre-operative assessments are used to ensure that the patient is fully informed, wishes to go ahead and is fit for the surgery and anaesthetic.

The software program allows anaesthetists and nurses to conduct patient interviews, face-to-face or over the telephone, gather previous clinical history, record current medical conditions, medications, vitals and allergies. It also tailors the questionnaire according to patient responses, records the data for further analysis and generates reports with risk scores to help medical staff identify potential problems quickly.

Using the new software program also minimises the risk of late cancellation of the operation by ensuring that all essential resources and discharge requirements are identified.



Left to right: **Dr Ronan Fenton**, Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust, **Dr Chandu Patil**, Health Enterprise East, **Philip Moakes**, Trisoft Limited and **Ruth May**, Chief Executive, Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust.

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IT services - software - support

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HEE worked with Dr Fenton to find a commercial partner for the software program to help the adoption of computerised pre-operative assessment by other hospitals. Dr Fenton said: “Clear legible communication is vital when a patient is seen by more than one person in the run up to an operation. The report generated by this system will bring together the many investigations carried out and answers given by the patient in a manner which allows any anaesthetist taking care of the patient to safely assess the patient without repetition and with confidence in the pre-assessment system.

The software technology has been licensed by Trisoft Limited, an established healthcare information technology company with 20 years experience of working with the NHS. Trisoft has re-engineered the software to make it commercially viable and easy to access from any computer in the hospital. The Pre-operative Assessment Software complements the company’s theatre management system - TheatreMan - which is now operational in over 50 hospitals across the UK.

Philip Moakes, Managing Director of Trisoft Limited said: “Trisoft is focused on solving issues faced by specific organisations and professions and delivering innovative software solutions. We are privileged to be working closely with HEE on the pre-operative assessment technology to provide expertise in software design, development and implementation”.

Chandu Patil, HEE Senior Innovation Manager - Software, said: “The Pre-operative Assessment Module is a perfect example of how an everyday procedure can be revolutionised by harnessing the right technology. This results in a faster, safer and more informative process, benefiting both staff and patients”.

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