

Area RHIO adds eHealth services

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The Rochester Regional Health Information Organization and Brighton-based eHealth Global Technologies Inc. have signed a two-year contract to have eHealth Global provide image-exchange services.

RHIOs are being developed nationally with the ultimate aim of creating a national medical information network that would give doctors instant access to patient data such as prescription drug information and individual medical history. The local RHIO, which serves the nine-county Rochester region, eventually plans to connect to counterparts in other New York regions and to regions in other states.

The new eHealth Global service for the first time links doctors in the local RHIO network to area radiology providers. The connection gives the physicians online access to patients' imaging studies and links the Monroe County Department of Public Health to imaging studies it uses to track tuberculosis and other diseases.

The eHealth Global service connects the local RHIO's information exchange software with Carestream Health Inc. picture-archiving and communications systems at up to eight local radiology providers.

"Rochester RHIO is excited to add (this) service," RHIO executive director Ted Kremer said. "EHealth Global provides an option we believe will be sustainable well into the future."

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