

Rehabilitation Center Groot Klimmendaal:

A dynamic patient record



The rehabilitation center "Groot Klimmendaal", located in Arnhem (The Netherlands), is one of the frontiers in healthcare information technology. This is easily explained, given the extensive information technology experience of its general manager, Guido van de Logt. The rehabilitation center - counting 120 beds and 400 employees - offers rehabilitation services for all age groups; newborn babies, children, young adults and adults, dealing with one or more serious physical handicaps presented at birth or through accidents. This represents a population with a wide diversity in medical history, and often with sizeable electronic medical records.



Multi-disciplinary approach

Says Guido van de Logt: "Our approach is always multi-discipline. For each patient, on average we have at least five therapeutic disciplines that need to work in close cooperation. This requires extensive yet unambivalent recording of data, with clear communication and information exchange between the various disciplines."

Digital and web based

Together with VitalHealth Software, the rehabilitation center designed and developed a digital, web based "Customer Historical Status Overview" (CHSO), an electronic rehabilitation record containing forms and data in digital format. The information in the electronic records is stored centrally, and can be accessed and updated by all authorized disciplines participating in the treatment process. VitalHealth Software contributes by hosting and maintaining the solution, against a fixed monthly fee.

The importance of the context

Says Guido van de Logt about his vision on healthcare information technology: "At Groot Klimmendaal we recognized the potential and numerous benefits of electronic patient records at an early stage. However, we were also convinced that existing solutions were inadequate. Most of these solutions are quite capable in capturing and exchanging factual data, structuring information and following established guidelines. But where they fall short is the area that I usually refer to as the context of data. How did caregivers interpret data throughout the treatment process? What were the deciding factors that made each caregiver choose a course of action? This was the kind of information that existing systems could not provide."

A dynamic process

“In our line of work - and in fact for the entire integrated healthcare network - we constantly build on the achievements and input of the participants in the network. A disease history and the treatment of the disease is a dynamic process, with continuous new developments in both the health status of the patient, as well as healthcare science. The consequence of this developing knowledge base is that past and present facts may be subject to new levels of interpretation.”

More user friendly. Efficient. Better

“It was a true team effort that paid off in as little as 6 months. With only a few minor enhancements on the wish list, the resulting solution was more than adequate for active use. The flexibility of the VitalHealth Platform allowed the end users to provide significant input to the feature set, resulting in a stable and user friendly final product. A solution that enhances both the efficiency of our workflow, as well as the quality of care.”

A solution with a future

“We have been working with the solution for some time now, with great satisfaction. Other providers in our market have expressed significant interest in our approach. This comes as no surprise, as it is a practical, flexible and future proof solution.”

