



Automation to Achieve Results



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For the Dorset Innovation Hub

Background

For a few years, the maternity service has managed to have a paperless patient record using Medway as a digital solution.

Medway helped make the shift from hand-written records to digital, but these were not easily accessed by midwives. Therefore the decision to move to BadgerNet to have a single system that could be used by patients and all staff involved in the pregnancy journey was made in 2021.



Problem identified

Adopting BadgerNet offered benefits for the UHD maternity team (see below).

However, to move from Medway to BadgerNet, all historical records needed to be transferred to give the full picture on any pregnancy. This consisted of over 100,000 maternity and neonatal records spanning nearly 10 years.

In order for the historical patient records to be transferred to BadgerNet, they first had to be extracted from the Medway system.

Jon Goss (eForms team) was tasked with finding a solution to the problem.

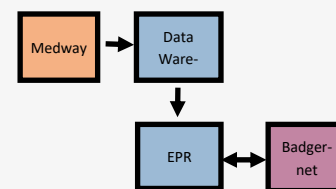


Solution

The process was 2-fold, and using MacroScheduler automations would facilitate both parts.

Firstly all existing records needed to be imported from Medway into EPR (Graphnet) via the data warehouse.

Secondly, another MacroScheduler automation was needed to handle the daily feed between BadgerNet and EPR.



Plan into action

The eForms team discovered that the documents existed in a feed that UHD's BI Team had created - this enabled the eForms team to surface the Maternity documents when a URL (web address) was accessed. Therefore they wrote a macro automation that was able to interrogate the source feed and then send that PMI number to the Information Reporting Server URL. This returned a document on screen.

Then the MacroScheduler's web tools were used to automate the commands to export a given document, firstly to PDF, then "out" to local downloads.



This then allowed the document, to be renamed and included the discharge date, so that it could be fired into the EPR tree in the correct date folder.

This was achieved by passing the document to a second MacroScheduler automation that is running 24/7 which feeds all UHD's existing eforms or document extracts into EPR.

This Maternity automation routine is set to run all week and all day. By automating this process, there are no breaks. no coffee stops, just keeps doing that loop, patient by patient. Endlessly.



Benefits

- Safety assurance for mother and child as the pregnancy record is readily available and can be acted upon quickly when needed 
- One single system / single pregnancy record so that the whole pregnancy journey is in one place - achieved by automated transfer of over 100,000 historical records
- Better accessibility for midwives (especially community midwives) who can access records via tablets
- Significant saving of NHS work time by using MacroScheduler automations vs human tasks
- Costs saved by using in-house experts to set up MacroScheduler automations vs purchasing an interface £5k-£15k 

Key Insights

For a human to transfer and upload each file, it would take over a year...and the task would be laborious and monotonous.

Engage with RPA developer at earliest opportunity and describe the desired vision/ end state, even if it seems unachievable—it may be possible !