

Group led by IBM awarded Man. government contract for electronic health records

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WINNIPEG - The Manitoba government has awarded a \$22.5 million dollar contract to design and implement an electronic health records system.

The group that will take on the task is being led by IBM.

Theresa Oswald, the province's health minister, says such a system will allow health-care providers access to current and relevant patient records.

She says that will make it easier to deliver timely and effective health-care services.

Roger Girard, chief information officer for Manitoba eHealth, says they're also developing a way to consult with officials in the health-care system and the public as the system is developed.

Provincial officials say such electronic health records can improve care for patients, reduce the chance of medication errors and avoid unnecessary medical testing.