



Government Health IT

Search
GovernmentHealthIT

[Advanced Search](#)

[OUR SITES](#) [CURRENT ISSUE](#) [SPOTLIGHT ON](#) [SUBSCRIBE](#) [BLOGS](#) [E-SEMINARS](#) [RESOURCE CENTER](#) [EVENTS](#) [JOBS](#) [FAQ](#)

[Print](#) | [Email](#) | [Comment](#) | [Subscribe](#)

Federal drug benefit inspires integration work

By John Moore

Published on August 29, 2005

Newsletters

Subscribe to the [Government Health IT newsletter](#) to receive all the latest in news, features and online resources.

The soon-to-arrive Medicare prescription drug benefit has sparked business for systems integrators. A number of companies are working on projects or anticipate new business associated with the Jan. 1, 2006, launch of the program. The program, authorized under the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003, is intended to reduce seniors' out-of-pocket expenses for subscription drugs. Integrators are building or expanding systems to handle the drug benefit's data processing workload.

CGI-AMS, for example, has a number of projects associated with the drug benefit. Earlier this summer, the integrator won a \$14.5 million contract to develop a payment reconciliation system for the Department of Health and Human Service's Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The system aims to help CMS provide accurate payments to prescription drug plans. CGI-AMS also is developing tools for the Health Plan Management System that will help prescription drug plans determine what drugs they will offer under the new benefit program. And the company is expanding the Medicare Appeals System to account for the prescription drug benefit. Since the new functionality will need to be in place early next year, integrators like CGI-AMS are entering a period of intense activity. "Fall will be a busy time," said Amy King, a vice president at CGI-AMS responsible for the company's public sector health care account group. CGI-AMS isn't alone in the business uptick. Unisys last month said part of a \$90 million contract extension with the New Jersey Department of Human Services will involve supporting the drug benefit, since the project involves the interface of Medicaid and Medicare records. Other service providers are gearing up for increased activity. Warren Edwards, chief financial officer of Affiliated Computer Services, told investors in a recent conference call that he expects more business to stem from the implementation of the Medicare prescription drug benefit. ACS is an outsourcing vendor that specializes in benefits processing. Infocrossing, another outsourcing vendor, earlier this month announced that its health care subsidiary will expand its Medicare Managed Care Services offering to support the prescription drug benefit. King said the drug benefit-related business will continue into next year, as CMS pursues additional functionality. "I think once everything gets going in January, probably by the end of March CMS will have a whole slew of additional requirements," King said.

[Most viewed](#) [Most E-mailed](#)

VA and DOD health organizations swap 'Chucks'

VistA outage disrupts Calif. VA hospitals

HHS awards \$22.5M in contracts to health info exchanges

McClellan: Resolve health IT privacy, security issues

HEALTH IT TOPICS

[Ambulatory Care](#)
[Classics](#)
[Clinical Decision Support](#)
[CMS](#)
[Community Health Care](#)
[Disease Surveillance](#)
[Electronic Health Records](#)
[ePrescribing](#)
[Identity Management](#)
[Imaging Systems](#)
[Inpatient Systems](#)
[Legislation](#)
[Military Health](#)

ONCHIT
Patient Safety
Pay for Performance
Privacy
RHIOs
Security
Standards
Surveys
Telehealth
Veterans Affairs

Marketplace: Products and Services from our sponsors

[PART, PMA, GPRa and Improper Payment Assistance](#)

Trivalent Solutions is dedicated to helping you with solutions such as Process Improvement, Lean Six Sigma and Transformation Project Management that meet the most stringent benchmarks. GSA MOBIS Schedule Holder GS-10F-0149P, Certified 8(a)

[Government Organization Charts & Contacts Directory](#)

Get access to 40,000 key government contacts within 400 civilian and DoD agencies, departments and offices. Build powerful agency relationships through INPUT's Organization Charts and Contacts Directory

[Real-Time Intelligence for Operation Success](#)

Discover how the U.S. Air Force has been able to reduce target acquisition time by 90% through a real-time, scalable data fusion repository. Access your copy of L-3/US Air Force's Network Centric Collaborative Targeting Systems case study today.

[Are your Firewalls staying up?](#)

Spirent Federal Systems helps government agencies ensure security devices can perform their required capacity and counter all threats with tools that drastically reduce the task of research, recreating and testing vulnerabilities. [Click to learn more](#)

[Enterprise Strategies for Defense Messaging](#)

Solve your integration challenges, DKW Communications, Inc. eliminates the hassles of supporting proprietary systems from the complexities of DMS. [Click to learn how we can maintain seamless interoperability while lowering DMS operational costs.](#)

[Working Together to Optimize Mobile Technology at the Point of Care](#)

Federal, state and private healthcare professionals now have access to a portable system that can record, retrieve, identify, verify and document all at the point of care. Intel Corporation teamed with Motion Computing, Inc., a long-time provider of mobility products in healthcare, to develop the Motion C5, the first mobile tablet PC for healthcare professionals based on Intel's mobile clinical assistant technology.

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Contact](#) | [Customer Help](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Editorial Info](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Link policy / Reprints](#) | [List Rentals](#) | [Site Map](#)

© 1996-2007 1105 Media, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

