

**C O R P O R A T E  
B A C K G R O U N D E R**

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**TheraDoc®**

TheraDoc, Inc., is a clinical informatics pioneer that has been helping hospitals leverage information to improve the quality and safety of patient care for 10 years. The company's patient safety surveillance and clinical decision support technology reduce the fragmentation and isolation that exist between patient data, best practice guidelines, and other systems that address just one piece of the healthcare information puzzle.

TheraDoc's standards-based, real-time surveillance technology automatically monitors for adverse events and healthcare-associated infections, quickly alerts clinicians to changes in patients' conditions, and provides evidence-based guidance for treatment. It also helps hospitals meet regulatory reporting and accreditation requirements, as well as pay-for-performance initiatives. The company also is a leader in ongoing information technology standards development and interoperability efforts that are vital for the safe and efficient delivery of quality patient care—especially important in light of new government initiatives to expand the use of electronic health records and clinical decision support technologies.

TheraDoc was founded in 1999 and dedicated its early years to developing and testing its groundbreaking technology, which was first adopted in 2003 at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Fla. Since that time, the company's software has been licensed by more than 200 U.S. hospitals in 31 states, including community hospitals, academic and Veterans Affairs medical centers, large integrated delivery networks, and children's and oncology specialty hospitals.

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## **The TheraDoc Platform**

TheraDoc products address key patient safety problems in medicine today—healthcare-associated infections, adverse drug events, procedural events, and postoperative events. The company’s core technology is its patented Expert System Platform<sup>®</sup>, which automatically receives and standardizes patient data from multiple hospital information sources. The Expert System Platform contains a core set of clinical tools that improve workflow and enhance care, facilitating the development of personalized clinical rounds reports, documentation of clinical interventions, and creation of custom alerts for a variety of patient care needs.

With the Expert System Platform as the “engine,” TheraDoc offers a suite of Knowledge Modules that integrate patient data with clinical practice guidelines, providing actionable best practice recommendations with supporting references. These software products include:

- Infection Control Assistant<sup>®</sup>—hospital-wide infection surveillance & reporting
- Antibiotic Assistant<sup>®</sup>—patient-based infection management & antimicrobial stewardship
- ADE Assistant<sup>®</sup>—adverse drug event surveillance, prevention, detection & reporting
- Clinical Alerts Assistant<sup>®</sup>—monitoring for non-drug adverse events

The company’s five-year product vision encompasses future Knowledge Modules that target additional safety concerns and national quality initiatives. For example, in late 2009, it will launch the Anticoagulation Assistant<sup>™</sup> to address safety issues in anticoagulation management and help providers comply with a new Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goal.

## **Why TheraDoc?**

Applying the latest medical knowledge and guidelines is fundamental to safe and effective patient care. However, successful application of best practices, clinical vigilance, and excellence in safe care delivery are increasingly difficult in the current environment of escalating patient acuity, regulation, data overload, and fragmentation of information.

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While systems are available that address healthcare-associated infections, antibiotic resistance, and other specific patient safety issues, they only add to this fragmentation for hospitals. In contrast, TheraDoc's platform-based approach provides comprehensive solutions with the flexibility to meet a changing array of patient care needs—both now and in the future.

The Institute of Medicine emphasizes that adherence to informatics standards is key to the effective use of health information technologies for improving patient care, quality, and safety. As a pioneer in the development and use of national messaging, vocabulary, and interoperability standards, TheraDoc is uniquely positioned to deliver timely and accurate clinical information to improve the quality and safety of patient care. With TheraDoc, healthcare information remains at the hospital rather than being transmitted to an outside source for processing and analysis, protecting the security of critical patient information at a time of increasingly stringent government privacy regulations.

### **Who Uses TheraDoc?**

Numerous prestigious healthcare facilities have adopted TheraDoc technology, including the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, University of Pennsylvania Health System, National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, Emory University Hospital, Lahey Clinic, North Shore-Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and 14 Veterans Affairs hospitals, among many others.

At these facilities, infection prevention professionals are using TheraDoc technology for real-time surveillance and reporting of healthcare-associated infections, reducing the time required to identify an infection by 50 percent. Physicians are using the software for proactive clinical surveillance, instant point-of-care information, and evidence-based clinical decision support—saving one hour each day for physician rounds. Pharmacists are using the technology for adverse drug event monitoring, antimicrobial stewardship, and improving communication and the continuity of patient care. Healthcare executives also are using TheraDoc to better understand the financial impact of healthcare-associated infections and adverse drug events, track improvements in healthcare quality, and meet public reporting requirements.

### **Clinically Proven Technology**

TheraDoc has partnered with leading hospitals, government agencies, and other institutions on numerous clinical studies and evaluations of its technology. The company also participates in two Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) public health initiatives. Examples of the proven benefits of the TheraDoc technology across a range of clinical applications include:

- ***Johns Hopkins Hospital***—TheraDoc helped Johns Hopkins reduce blood stream infection surveillance time by 80 percent and healthcare-acquired infection confirmation time by 50 percent, while achieving 98 percent accuracy. The hospital also improved identification of patients requiring isolation and timeliness of isolation for patients with 11 different drug-resistant bacteria and viruses by an average of 72 hours per patient.
- ***CDC-Sponsored Randomized Controlled Trial***—Physicians randomized to TheraDoc decision support software achieved a 32-percent reduction in inappropriate antibiotic prescribing, compared with only a 5-percent reduction for an education-only group.
- ***Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Fla.***—Providers reported prevention of 5–6 infection-related deaths per year and annual antibiotic drug cost savings equivalent to the annual license fees for the TheraDoc technology.
- ***Franciscan Health System (FHS)***—TheraDoc helped Washington-based FHS achieve a 23 percent reduction in adverse drug events and a six-month financial savings of \$560,000.
- ***2002 Olympic Winter Games***—The TheraDoc Infection Control Assistant was used for rapid detection of disease clusters and agents of bioterrorism in the athletes' village and surrounding population.

### **TheraDoc Leadership**

TheraDoc is guided by an experienced team of health information technology executives who are passionate about the positive impact of clinical informatics on the quality and safety of patient care. The company is led by Stanley L. Pestotnik, M.S., R.Ph., co-founder, president, and chief executive officer. Pestotnik is a clinical pharmacist and medical informaticist with more than 20 years of experience in the development and implementation of clinical decision support systems.

He is internationally recognized for his work in medical expert system technologies to improve patient safety and quality of care. Pestotnik founded the company with:

- John Burke, M.D., an infectious disease physician and hospital epidemiologist at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City.
- Merle A. Sande, M.D., former professor of medicine at the University of Washington, who was a leading worldwide expert in infectious diseases and HIV management.
- Mark H. Skolnick, Ph.D., a pioneer of the Human Genome Project and founder of Myriad Genetics. Skolnick is internationally recognized for his work in designing bio-informatics to map human pedigrees and track genes through human populations.

In addition to a talented management team, TheraDoc has established clinical advisory boards to help the company focus technology development efforts to ensure that its patient safety surveillance and clinical decision support products are consistent with practitioner and researcher needs, best practices, current science, and future legislative and accreditation standards. These groups include:

- Infection Prevention and Control Clinical Advisory Board
  - Co-chair Trish M. Perl, M.D., M.Sc., professor of medicine, pathology, and epidemiology, and hospital epidemiologist, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions and University
  - Co-chair Anthony Harris, M.D., M.P.H., associate professor of medicine and associate hospital epidemiologist, University of Maryland School of Medicine
- Infectious Disease Clinical Advisory Board
  - Chairman Neil O. Fishman, M.D., associate professor of medicine, director of the Department of Healthcare Epidemiology and Infection, and director of the Antimicrobial Management Program at the University of Pennsylvania Health System
- Adverse Drug Event Clinical Advisory Board
  - Chairman Eric A. Pifer, M.D., chief medical information officer, El Camino Hospital, Mountain View, Calif.

### **ARRA—Changing the Paradigm for Healthcare IT & TheraDoc**

Legislators, policymakers, patient advocates, providers, and others have long promoted the use of healthcare information technology (IT), including electronic health records and clinical decision support systems, as a key element in improving healthcare quality and safety. The American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, also known as the stimulus package, pushes healthcare IT to the next level. The landmark act is accelerating a shift in the healthcare IT paradigm from the current transactional system to one focused on integration, standards, and clinical decision support. It offers about \$20 billion in financial incentives to aid in the development of a robust IT infrastructure for healthcare and assist hospitals and providers in adopting and using healthcare IT. Non-users also are addressed—ultimately seeing penalties in the form of reduced Medicare reimbursement.

While this program provides significant opportunities for healthcare organizations, many challenges lie ahead. In particular, facilities need to immediately begin developing the required capabilities in order to be eligible for Medicare and Medicaid incentive payments beginning in 2011. In addition, standards and requirements will evolve beyond the initial set scheduled for adoption Dec. 31, 2009. While there are many unanswered questions, there also are technology solutions immediately available to hospitals, including TheraDoc's technology platform and clinical tools that will meet a broad range of clinical and patient safety needs.

### **The Future**

As a leader in the healthcare information technology field for 10 years, TheraDoc is uniquely positioned to help hospitals meet changing patient care and regulatory challenges. The company has a heritage of researching, developing, testing, and implementing successful patient safety and clinical decision support systems, determining early on that a platform-based approach would be key in meeting the current and future needs of healthcare organizations. TheraDoc also continues to be actively involved in critical standards development efforts, with its executives working closely with Health Level 7 (HL7), the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute, and other organizations to aid in the development of interoperability and communications standards that enable disparate healthcare applications to exchange key clinical and administrative data.

Given the many benefits of using healthcare technology, such as electronic health records coupled with clinical decision support tools, as well as the availability of financial incentives as part of the stimulus package, it is expected that a significant number of healthcare providers will accelerate the process of adoption in 2009 and will implement technology solutions no later than 2010 in order to receive the maximum funding available. TheraDoc is dedicated to helping hospitals improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of patient care through enhanced clinical decision making and will be instrumental in helping facilities meet the challenges ahead.

**About TheraDoc**

TheraDoc is a privately held clinical informatics company based in Salt Lake City. The company was founded 1999. For more information, visit [www.theradoc.com](http://www.theradoc.com).

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