



minc user workshop scheduled

The first workshop for MINC users (current and soon-to-be) from all of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons and the Medical Council of Canada is scheduled for March 27 in Edmonton, Alberta.

This workshop is designed to assist users with the technical aspects of using the MINC database to add physicians, make changes or make enquiries. Not only will it focus on increasing the skills of the operators, the workshop will promote greater consistency in information handling processes and problem solving. Improvements in the functionality of the MINC database will also be discussed.

Softworks Group, the firm which is contracted to develop and support the MINC application and maintain the secure website, will host the workshop in their office. This will allow for a tour of the computer facility and discussions directly with the system developers.

get your docs in a row!

MINC has launched its campaign to let potential Licensed Users know that the MINC system is ready for use, and how to get involved. As previously observed, MINC is not focused on selling a product, it is committed to buying a customer.

Carrying the tag line "Get Your DOCS in a Row", informational brochures were sent out to approximately 50 organizations in provinces where MINC has already been implemented (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Newfoundland). National organizations are also being approached at this time, to allow them to begin the planning and technical work required for using MINC numbers. The brochure provides a quick overview of the MINC system, and addresses questions often raised by organizations which manage physician databases.

Over the course of 2006, as other provinces implement MINC, the promotional campaign will expand into those jurisdictions as well.

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about minc ...

MINC is the Medical Identification Number for Canada (Numéro d'identification médicale du Canada), a system developed to provide reliable lifetime identification for every individual in the Canadian medical education and practice systems. The MINC system is operated by MINC#NIMC, a not-for-profit national corporation. The Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FM-RAC) and the Medical Council of Canada (MCC) are its co-owners.

MINC numbers will be issued to all individuals at the time of first entry to any aspect of the Canadian medical education or practice systems. Once assigned, MINC numbers remain unchanged throughout the individual's entire medical career.

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minc FAQs

Q: Will MINC replace any existing physician numbers?

A: MINC is designed to do one thing – provide an identifier (think alias, or nickname) for an individual (any physician who writes an MCC exam or is registered in the Canadian medical educational or practice systems). The assignment of a MINC number does not reflect any status, qualification, privilege, authority, or credential; it does not indicate whether the physician is licensed nor even where they reside.

MINC's sole purpose is to provide an enduring and nationally-recognized identifier. That purpose would be compromised if the number was also used to reflect some other attribute that was changeable. For this purpose, MINC License Agreements contain a prohibition on organizations using MINC numbers as replacements for any existing physician number.

minc implementation updates

Operational in: Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Newfoundland

In final testing: Medical Council of Canada, Nova Scotia

Resolving technical issues: PEI, British Columbia

Scheduled for summer 2006: Quebec

Scheduled for fall 2006: Ontario

If you have a question about the MINC system, e-mail info@minc-nimc.ca

minc privacy impact assessment almost complete

The privacy impact assessment (PIA) begun late last fall is scheduled for completion by the end of March 2006. The PIA's purpose is to describe how MINC's operations and documents conform to the requirements of the various pieces of privacy legislation which apply to it.

A draft PIA received in December highlighted the need for additional MINC documentation, clarified descriptions and better coordination of the various documents involved in the operation of MINC. These documentation changes have now been made, and are being reviewed before the final PIA can be completed.



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