

**ZDNet Asia** Where Technology Means Business

▶ **New! Industry Watch:**  
A prescription for innovation

▶ HOME ▶ NEWS ▶ INSIGHT ▶ BLOGS ▶ JOBS ▶ TECHGUIDES ▶ DOWNLOADS

Software | Hardware | Security | Communications | Business | Internet | Network Admin | Special Reports

Whitepapers | IT Library | Builder | SMB | Toolkits | Premium Newsletters | SEARCH  Insight

advertisement

**Drive your Business Forward**

SERENA

ZDNet Asia Mobile Edition • CIO Vision Series • Asia's Top Technology Companies • See IT Salary Benchmarks • Browse Tech Jobs  
**News picks:** Unstoppable iPhone hackers • Intel to launch Tigerton • Storm rides on YouTube

ZDNet Asia Special Report

**INDUSTRY WATCH: HEALTHCARE**  
A prescription for innovation

**Hospice care gets tech boost**

By **Isabelle Chan**, ZDNet Asia  
 Wednesday, August 29 2007 09:52 AM

TALKBACK  
 PRINT STORY  
 EMAIL STORY

**Mobile technologies have lightened the load of some hospice caregivers in Singapore.**

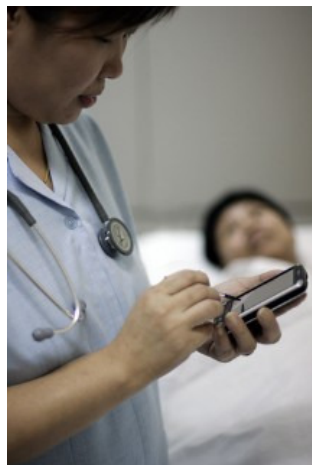
Healthcare workers at both HCA Hospice Care and the Home Nursing Foundation (HNF) no longer lug around thick medical records, but are instead armed with personal digital assistants (PDAs) when they visit patients at their homes.

According to Lee Poh Wah, program director of The Lien Foundation which funded the project costs for the two healthcare facilities, the gadgets have raised productivity levels of caregivers.

Within a month of the implementation, the HNF reported 14 percent increase in productivity, while HCA reduced the time taken for clinical note-taking by some 33 percent, Lee said in an e-mail interview.

The PDAs have also yielded other intangible benefits.

"Morale and confidence have increased all around," Lee said. "Nurses look and feel more professional."



PDAs have become an indispensable tool

These medical workers have become more tech-savvy since they began using the mobile devices in July 2006.

**At a glance**

**HCA Hospice Care** and the Home Nursing Foundation equip its medical staff with personal digital assistants (PDAs).

**Objectives**  
 To eliminate bulky medical files and needless paperwork.

**Project cost**  
 S\$280,000 (US\$183,165)

**Handheld devices**  
 Most nurses and doctors use Microsoft's Pocket PC handhelds because of its portability, but some doctors are using the larger tablet PCs.

"The entire organizational culture and mindset of HNF and HCA have changed tremendously," said Lee. "In fact, the PDA is now a 'sticky' and indispensable tool for the nurses."

News of the successful deployment has spread, attracting interest from both local and overseas organizations.

Lee told ZDNet Asia that the non-profit organizations have received calls from

Video

**Hospital of the future**

Watch it now!

00.00.00

**More Insights**

- Asia healthcare: Tech laggard no more**  
 IT systems are being upgraded to enhance patient care and keep pace with international standards.
- Healthcare IT at work**  
 From electronic medical records to RFID tags, the latest technologies pave the way for new possibilities.
- WiMax races to medical aid**  
 High-speed network enables medical services to be carried out more speedily at the Australian Grand Prix.
- A way to a services culture**  
 Prevention is better than cure--SOA can help reduce bottlenecks and raise service levels.
- Hospice care gets tech boost**  
 Non-profit healthcare institutions adopt mobile devices, shrugging off image that the industry is a technology laggard.
- Student nurses get realistic training**  
 PDAs help foster a new generation of tech-savvy nurses.

advertisement

**CA - Transforming IT Management**



**Manage your IT**  
 Manage IT service quality based on business priorities by consolidating and automating how IT measures and optimizes end-to-end service delivery and support.



**Govern your IT**  
 Maximize business value by aligning a portfolio of services with business objectives, balancing cost, resources and business risks.



**Secure your IT**  
 Protect assets and manage risks by monitoring and enforcing policy-based controls, managing identities and ensuring appropriate access.

**Sponsored By**



**Benefits**

- HNF reported 14 percent increase in productivity, while HCA reduced the time taken for clinical note-taking by some 33 percent.

- Morale and job confidence levels of medical workers have risen as they take pride in their use of the latest technologies.

- Caregivers do not have to lug around thick medical files when they make house calls.

- Doctors and nurses share information and collaborate more easily, resulting in enhanced patient care.

Polytechnic student nurses with PDAs.

Singapore government hospitals, as well as a hospice and a multinational corporation in Japan.

Spurred by the project's success, The Lien Foundation has embarked on another philanthropic effort to help boost nursing education with the help of IT.

The Lien Foundation aims to foster a new generation of tech-savvy nurses by funding part of the project costs to equip Ngee Ann



**Related News and Insight**

- Hospitals need RFID injection
- SCS eyes pharmacy industry
- Internet changing global healthcare models
- Healthcare must step up IT adoption
- S'pore hospital to use tablet-like PC

[▶ Back to Special Reports](#)

**PRINT STORY**

**EMAIL STORY**

**GET THIS IN YOUR INBOX**

**TALKBACK**

Post your message here

**RELATED WHITE PAPERS**

- [Improving Ad Hoc Network Performance With Backbone Topology Control](#)
- [Transport in IP-Based UMTS Radio Access Network: Analytical Study and Empirical Validation](#)
- [Towards an Adaptable Message Oriented Middleware for Mobile Environment](#)

**Sponsored Links**

- Juniper Networks [Get a Universal Approach to Unified Threat Management](#)
- Know your tech worth [Compare your salary with your peers. Join activeTechPros.](#)
- Security Insights [Connect to your security resources portal.](#)
- HP Whiteboard Video [What is vPro Technology?](#)
- HP Whiteboard Video [Securing your Business PC](#)
- IT solutions [Choose your server, storage, software from IBM today](#)

ZDNet Asia: [News](#) | [Insight](#) | [Blogs](#) | [SMB](#) | [IT Library](#) | [TechGuides](#)  
[Toolkits](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Premium Newsletters](#) | [RSS feeds](#)

Search  Sitewide ▾

**Around the World:** [businessMOBILE Asia](#) | [ZDNet AU](#) | [ZDNet China](#) | [ZDNet Taiwan](#) | [ZDNet India](#) | [ZDNet Korea](#) | [ZDNet Japan](#) | [ZDNet.com](#) | [ZDNet UK](#) | [ZDNet Germany](#) | [ZDNet France](#) | [CNET Asia](#) | [CNET.de](#) | [CNET Australia](#) | [CNET France](#) | [CNET Japan](#) | [CNET Taiwan](#) | [CNET UK](#) | [CNET.com](#) | [News.com](#) | [BNET](#) | [businessMOBILE.fr](#) | [Download.com](#) | [TechRepublic](#) | [Silicon.com](#) | [Builder](#) | [MySimon](#) | [Webshots](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [GameSpot Korea](#) | [MP3.com](#) | [TV.com](#)

[Advertise](#) | [About CNET Networks](#) | [About ZDNet Asia](#) | [Go to CNET Asia](#) | [Jobs @ CNET in Asia](#)

Copyright © 2007 CNET Networks, Inc. All rights reserved. [Privacy Policy](#).