Welcome to EHI Intelligence Analysis, which gives you insight into trends and changes in the healthcare IT market.

EHI reported recently that the ‘iSoft 7’ group of trusts in London and the South that chose to retain their iSoft systems ahead of the National Programme for IT in the NHS have signed a four-year, £25m extension to their contracts with CSC – which now owns the company.

The contract extension covers all seven trusts in London and the South using the iSoft patient administration system, iPM, and the slightly smaller number using its clinical system, iCM.

The other four iSoft trusts

Looking through the EHI Intelligence NHS Trust Database, we found there are four further trusts in London that have iSoft PAS systems procured outside NPfIT – which was contracted to deliver Cerner Millennium to trusts across the capital.

The table below identifies these trusts, the systems they are using, and what their future intentions are likely to be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remaining iSoft sites</th>
<th>System name</th>
<th>Contract expiry date</th>
<th>Future intentions</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust</td>
<td>iExpress</td>
<td>01/01/2013</td>
<td>Planned spend for the financial year 2011-12 includes PC replacement, contractual spend on PACS and RIS systems, and upgrades to storage in wards.</td>
<td>Annual plan 2011-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croydon Health Services NHS Trust</td>
<td>Clinicom</td>
<td>29/07/2012</td>
<td>London collaborative procurement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West London Hospitals NHS Trust</td>
<td>iCS</td>
<td>01/01/2014</td>
<td>Trust will be merging with Ealing Hospitals NHS Trust. Issues currently under consideration for IT include procurement, planning for replacement of PAS, PACS and RIS.</td>
<td>Outline business case for merger - October 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust</td>
<td>iCS</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
<td>Trust plans significant investment in a PACS upgrade and the introduction of a clinical portal.</td>
<td>Business plan 2012-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Different approaches from trusts

These trusts have a mixed assortment of systems. The iCS system is actually a Silverlink developed system, widely used in the NHS under the name PCS. The iExpress and Clinicom PAS are completely different systems, provided by iSoft.

Continues →
Furthermore, our secondary research suggests that they are approaching their aging systems and upcoming contract expiry dates in different ways.

Croydon Health Services NHS Trust is involved in the London collaborative tender for **PAS and electronic patient record systems that was issued in February**.

Most of the trusts involved in this procurement either received Cerner Millennium through the national programme or are likely to take it because of trust mergers or local implementations of the system. Croydon is a case in point, and is **preparing to implement Millennium this year**.

North West London Hospitals NHS Trust is in the latter stages of a merger with Ealing Hospitals NHS Trust and has publicly stated its intention to procure a replacement PAS.

The remaining two trusts have not stated any specific plans regarding their current PAS systems. The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust announced in its business plan for 2012-13 that it plans to focus on an upgrade to its picture archiving and communications system and the introduction of a clinical portal in the short term.

Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Foundation Trust has said that in the current financial year, 2011-12, it will be focusing expenditure on the replacement of PCs, as well as contractual spend on big, existing systems, such as PACS.

**Conclusion**

The future of PACS and EPR systems in London is becoming clearer, with a big tranche of trusts sticking with iSoft and another big tranche going out to tender but likely to stick with Cerner Millennium.

Outside these two big blocks, sit a number of other trusts, including four using iSoft systems. One of these is moving to Cerner Millennium, one has said it will be looking to replace its PAS post-merger, and two have yet to declare any PAS-replacement plans.