

Information Technology Authorization Committee

Project Review
February 26, 2014
Action Item

Agency: Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) – Arizona State Hospital (ASH)
Project Name: ASH Avatar Electronic Medical Records System (EMR) Upgrade
Project Number: HS14005
ASET Oversight Manager: Rachel Carson

The ADHS Arizona State Hospital (ASH) is proposing to upgrade and enhance their EMR to include software, reporting and technical environments. Avatar is a commercial-off-the-shelf EMR licensed by Netsmart Technologies which is a leading software vendor within the behavioral health arena and meets all standards established by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. The version currently being used within ASH is ten years old and no longer supported by the vendor and is not compatible with ICD-10 (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition) required by October 2014. The first of a two phased project will address the most critical risks and issues, including ICD-10 compliance, implementation of a document management solution which will allow a complete medical chart through inclusion of documents that exist only in hard copy, and implementation of the technical infrastructure required to support this mission critical application with improved performance, reliability, and disaster recovery (DR) capabilities. The second project phase will add three new modules (RxConnect, eMar, and Care Connect) targeted at closing the current gaps in missing functionality and transforming Avatar into a fully functional and integrated Electronic Medical Records system.

Motion Options:

ITAC Approval:

ITAC Conditional Approval:

The Arizona Strategic Enterprise Technology Office recommends ITAC approval of the PIJ with the following Conditions:

1. ASH shall not make any purchase commitments for infrastructure components described in the PIJ until a final decision is made in regards to the Netsmart Cloud option. Any changes in direction need to be supported with an amended PIJ submitted to ASET, and to the Information Technology Authorization Committee (ITAC) if necessary, for review and approval prior to any infrastructure expenditure.
2. If Netsmart's Cloud offering is not FedRAMP compliant, ASH shall work with ASET's Security, Privacy and Risk team to coordinate a 3rd party compliance review before any agreements can be considered.

ITAC Disapproval: