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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WIRRAL HEALTH INFORMATICS SERVICE TO USE ECEPTIONIST®

Wirral, England and Houston, Texas – Wirral Health Informatics Service (WHIS) has signed a contract with Eceptionist, Inc. for the provision of a scheduling and booking system.

The Eceptionist booking system will be used by WHIS to provide scheduling and booking facilities to staff across Wirral including those within secondary care, intermediary care services and community care.

Initially the system will be used to schedule appointments within the Radiology and Cardiovascular Departments of Wirral Hospital NHS Trust (WHT). It will be integrated within the Wirral Electronic Health Record to provide scheduling and booking for the Wirral Heart Support Team and Macmillan Nurses and will be used to schedule and book intermediate services for several specialties.

The system will interface with systems currently in use within WHT and across the health community and will comply with the NCRS and e-booking standards that the NHS Design Authority are developing.

WHIS Technical Director, Pete Marsh, commented on the program: "Eceptionist will allow us to achieve some of the principles outlined in "Information for Health" by allowing the boundaries of health care to be joined up across primary, intermediate and secondary care. It will also allow us to achieve some recent objectives by helping to improve patient choice to diagnostic services, facilitate intermediate care access to intermediate & secondary care for our patients along with giving them greater access and choice during the appointment booking process. In so doing, we will provide a higher level of care to the people of Wirral."

"Eceptionist will allow Wirral to meet its goal of providing its patients greater access and choice," said an Eceptionist representative.

"We are delighted to assist Wirral Hospital NHS Trust and Wirral Health Informatics Service in achieving the objective of greater access and choice set forth by NHS Policies."

Wirral Hospital NHS Trust (<http://www.wirralhealth.org.uk>) serves a population of approximately 340,000 people in Wirral, Ellesmere Port and Neston. The Trust comprises two hospitals at

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Arrowe Park and Clatterbridge, together with facilities at Victoria Central and St Catherine's Community hospitals.

Arrowe Park Hospital in Upton has a total of 918 beds and provides the full range of emergency and acute health services for adults and children.

There are 252 beds at Clatterbridge Hospital in Bebington, a 'centre of excellence' for elective (planned) surgery, rehabilitation services and care of older people.

In addition, the Trust manages support services and three wards (83 beds) for the care and rehabilitation of older people at Victoria Central Community Hospital in Wallasey and a radiography department at St Catherine's Community Hospital in Tranmere.

Wirral Health Informatics Service (WHIS) is a single entity that combined the existing information management and technology departments within Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology NHS Trust, Wirral Hospital NHS Trust, Birkenhead and Wallasey PCT, Bebington and West Wirral PCT, and the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust.

This team of 150 IT professionals is seen as a community-wide resource and its members consider themselves as working for the NHS community as a whole and not one specific organisation.

Eceptionist, Inc., (<http://www.eceptionist.com>), is a privately held company located in Houston, Texas. The company owns and licenses the Eceptionist® software. The service allows users to book appointments in real-time over the Internet as well as to create an electronic patient record, complete with medical images. The service is secure and encrypted and the privacy of patient information is protected. Eceptionist, Inc. provides service in multiple languages to customers throughout the world.

Eceptionist's customers include the United States Military, the National Health Service in the United Kingdom and TelBios in Italy.

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