

Orion wins \$14m Australia deal

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New Zealand's biggest software exporter, Orion Health, has won an A\$11 million (NZ\$14m) contract as part of an A\$467m project to roll out electronic health records in Australia.

Orion is part of a consortium led by consultancy Accenture, and which also includes Oracle, which has just scored A\$77m in software contracts.

The electronic health records will provide a complete summary of a person's health history that could be accessed by both clinicians and the patient.

In most countries, including Australia and New Zealand, health records are spread across different providers and siloed systems, meaning clinicians and patients are unable to get a complete view.

Australian Health Minister Nicola Roxon has promised every Australian who wanted a personal electronic health record would have access to one by July next year.

Orion will provide its clinical desktop software. It gives people access to a range of different systems so, for example, they can see patient records, lab results and X-rays through a single portal.

Orion said it was unable to comment on the project and referred questions to Accenture.

It has also formed a strategic partnership with the Canterbury District Health Board that will see it road test and collaborate on products with staff there.

Chief executive Ian McCrae said its clinical desktop software was used by about two-thirds of hospitals in New Zealand and the remainder would soon be adopting it.

New Zealand's National Health IT Board has said New Zealanders will have electronic health records by 2014.

- **BusinessDay**