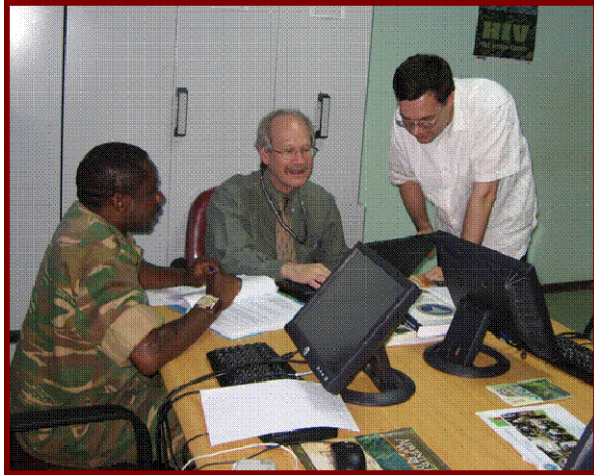


Partnership LRC Contributes to Maina Soko Hospital's Selection as SmartCare Pilot Site

Maina Soko Military Hospital in Lusaka was selected by Zambia's Ministry of Health as a round-one implementation site for an electronic patient record system developed in conjunction with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



Tommy Sajisa (left) works with CDC representative Dr. Mark Shields and Anton Delsink of Microsoft. The CDC donated eight touch screen computers and four printers to help the hospital implement SmartCare.

Dubbed "SmartCare," the Continuity of Care Patient Tracking System has been approved by the Ministry of Health for eventual use at all health facilities in Zambia.

Utilizing a chip similar to a mobile phone SIM card, SmartCare cards securely store health records that patients can easily carry from one point of service to the next to keep care providers informed of their test results and treatment regimens.

The cards, along with the SmartCare software, help ensure proper, continuous care even if patients seek treatment at multiple facilities over the course of time.

Clinicians use touch screen computers to view and update client data, which is stored in an onsite database, as well as on the SmartCare cards kept by patients. Ministry of Health Warrant Officer First Class Tommy Sajisa and Corporal Kenny Njekwa attended a SmartCare training-of-trainers course in October 2006 and have since trained 32 Maina Soko personnel in the application.

Maina Soko was chosen as an early implementation site thanks in part to improved information and communication technology capabilities introduced at the hospital through an onsite Learning Resource Center (LRC) established in 2006 with support from the HIV/AIDS Twinning Center.