

Are you ready to e-VOLVE?

For months we've been saying it's coming; that it's just around the corner, that it's at our doorstep. This month, it arrived: TransForm has inked a deal on behalf of its hospital members to replace existing Hospital Information Systems (HISs) with Cerner's Millennium platform.

e-VOLVE is more than just a technology project. It is a clinical transformation that will help the region standardize and streamline clinical workflows and care pathways, decrease the number of duplicate tests and improve communications between clinicians and organizations.

TransForm is in the process of getting final sign-off on the implementation plan we've been working so hard on, after which the roll-out will begin. The first hospital is currently slated to go live in spring 2020, with the last hospital set to join around the end of 2021.

The success of this plan depends on you - because ultimately, e-VOLVE is your project. It's going to be your system, used by you to help your patients. Our job is to help you ensure the installation and transition goes smoothly, and to do that we're going to need your help.

History tells us that when hospital CEOs lead HIS renewal, staff prioritize implementation to the benefit of the project. The reverse is true when CEOs delegate this critical role; staff are less sure of their priorities and success of the initiative is impacted accordingly.

We're off on the right foot. Participating hospital CEOs will be lending their voices to our cause during the official kick-off announcements in the coming weeks and for that, they have my thanks. It is my hope that the momentum created at this critical juncture will continue to build as we look to the rest of you to follow suit and join TransForm in embracing the job that's ahead.

I've heard it said that this exercise will be akin to changing the engines of a commercial airliner while it's in flight – without spilling any drinks in the cabin. I have no doubt we have our work cut out for us, but consider this: A Virginia hospital group just rolled out Cerner to 80 hospitals simultaneously.

In Erie St. Clair, we're talking about four systems over the next two years. If we keep pulling together, we've got this.