

Health Research Access Project

Agenda:

- Background to project
- Project objectives
- Progress to date
- Demo of data collected
- Questions

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How did the project start?

The QRNO ICT directors recognised a need to examine how network access is provided for university staff & students placed within hospitals and how to improve that access.

Why do we need reliable network access from hospitals?

Growing collaboration between universities and QH and private hospitals in:

- Research, joint staff appointments and student placements
- Access is often limited from hospitals
- Increased datasets e.g. MRI & X-ray
- Access to specific software e.g. SPSS & SAS

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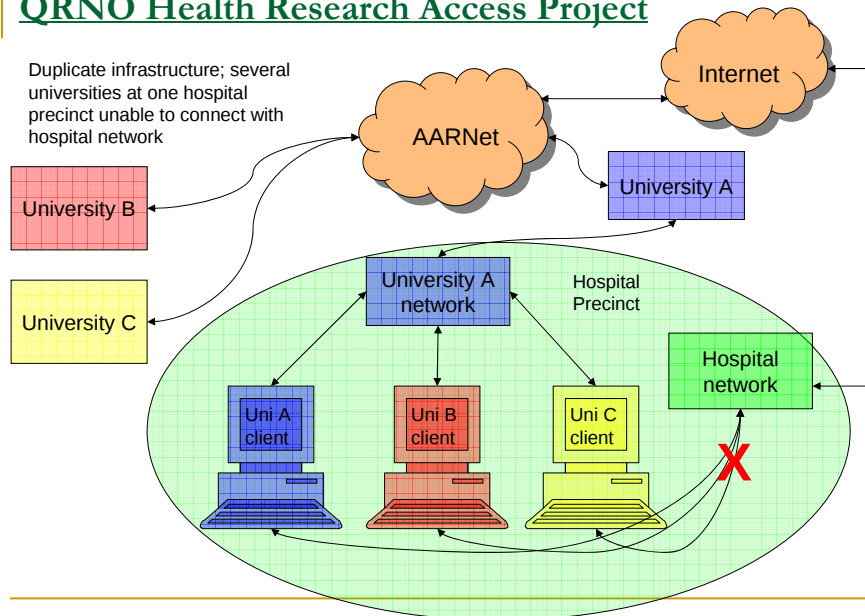


What was the problem with the existing arrangements?

- Often ad-hoc/complicated methods.
- Sometimes insufficient bandwidth.
- Access from QH computers is limited. May need 2x pc's on a desk.
- Universities often install their own network infrastructure.

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Duplicate infrastructure; several universities at one hospital precinct unable to connect with hospital network



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Project objectives (Stage 1):

- Determine staff/student placements in health precincts
 - Document university installed infrastructure at hospitals
 - Determine a suitable network design to meet needs
 - Develop a cost-sharing model
 - Develop common support models
 - Develop a project proposal for Stage 2
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Stage 1 Project structure & plan

- 4x phases – planning, audit, development, enhancement - in the first stage which was due to finish in June 2008 but has been extended to end-July
 - Audit (discovery, position statement) performed via surveys of all QRNO members.
 - Development and enhancement with the help of QRNO TAC through workshops.
 - Practical examples through being placed at QUT
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More about the database and web front end

- Created through Griffith's Industrial Affiliates Program
- MySQL database, php server-side scripting, html front-end
- Data entry forms; Q'ld map showing hospitals and universities
- Pre-written queries
- Administrator interface

<https://hra-dev.nms.griffith.edu.au>

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What were the snags?

- Delays in completing surveys
- Bumped from the Q'ld Health Education & Research Council
- Some questions about the worth of the project

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Network architecture, support & cost sharing principles

- Costs can be reduced through cooperation between QRNO members and the hospitals.
 - Set up and maintenance costs should be kept to a minimum by keeping the architecture as uncomplicated yet robust as possible.
 - Hospital and individual institution's WAN traffic must be segregated.
 - The cost sharing arrangements should be sufficiently attractive to discourage members from installing their own stand-alone infrastructure
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Landmarks for success

- High level QH Business Sponsor and QH representative on steering committee
 - Presentation at the QHERC meeting
 - QH CIO meeting
 - eHealth Advisory Group support
 - Architecture, cost sharing and support models produced
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In-principle agreement from QH e-HAG for

- Sharing cabling infrastructure and network equipment space
 - An agreement to share fibre WAN links where it's sensible to do so
 - Allow universities to establish WAPs on QH sites
 - Investigation into pc virtualisation to avoid the 2 computers per desk problem
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Where to from here?

- Stage 2 project plan to be finalised
 - Formalise agreements with QH and private hospitals
 - Keep momentum going
 - New hospitals – GC University Hospital, Sunshine Coast & Children's
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QUESTIONS?

