

# PRESS RELEASE



## Adastra for Crawley Urgent Treatment Centre

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Crawley Urgent Treatment Centre has become the latest in a long line of NHS walk-in and urgent care centres to choose Adastra Software as its system supplier.

The new centre, based in Crawley Hospital in West Sussex, has elected to network into the existing Adastra system used by Thamesdoc, the operational hub service which provides urgent and out-of-hours care services to all of Surrey plus parts of Hampshire and West Sussex.

Use of Adastra as a common case management system will greatly improve continuity of care. The Thamesdoc system not only extends across all local GP out-of-hours services, its Adastra database also bridges with NHS Direct and GP surgery systems to provide for seamless referral and reporting.

Over half of all NHS walk-in centres together with many urgent care and treatment centres are now either using or planning to use Adastra to manage their operations, and nearly all of these services have elected to do so by becoming integral to the wider urgent care environment established by operational hubs such as Thamesdoc. Adastra Chief Executive Lynn Woods underlines the appeal of using a common system to drive forward with service integration. "Urgent Care Centres need shared access to a common IT system which is so versatile it can support processes that are user-definable right down to a particular case type, user identity or location. That is what we have achieved".

The new service in Crawley follows in the footsteps of a similar facility in Redhill which started work in 2005, also networked into the Thamesdoc system. Redhill Project Manager Jan Don has been very pleased both by system performance and by the clinical continuity which has come from operating within the Thamesdoc *umbrella*. "Our doctors and nurses find the system intuitive and easy to use, and it has been a great advantage for the management team to be able to concentrate on developing the service whilst Thamesdoc administers the IT. Integrating in this way was an inspired move."

For Thamesdoc, Clinical Governance Director Dr Michael Crow believes the developments in Crawley and Redhill signal the way ahead for integrated community-facing urgent health and social care services. "The model started to take shape twenty years ago with the emergence of GP Co-operatives – as was Thamesdoc in its early days. Now we have the opportunity to build onwards to achieve truly wide-ranging and integral urgent care networks".

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Press Release Ends

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you need further information please contact

Emma Dew  
Marketing Manager  
Adastra Software Ltd  
Unit 4 Eurogate Business Park  
Ashford  
Kent TN24 8SB

Tel: 01233 722803 or email [emma.dew@adastra.com](mailto:emma.dew@adastra.com)

**[www.adastra.com](http://www.adastra.com)**