# **Build versus Buy a Custom App**

# **A TeleTriage Story**

## Nadine Opstbaum & Kyle Kelly September 2018

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### Agenda

- LVHN background
- Request for a New App
- Health Network Secure Text
- Requirements
- TeleTriage Development
- Conclusions
- Lessons Learned
- Questions



### Lehigh Valley Health Network





### **LVHN Informatics and Technology Status/Awards**

LVHN achieved Stage 7 in the EMR Adoption Model for both inpatient and ambulatory use of the EMR

 Only 5% of US hospitals and 9.6% of US ambulatory clinics have achieved Stage 7



For the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year LVHN was awarded Most Wired designation

- 2017 Most Wired Advanced, one of 27 hospitals in the US
- 2017 Most Wired Innovator, one of 3 hospitals in the US
- 2017 Most Wired Most Improved LVH-P

LVHN achieved the HIMSS Davies Award for Excellence in HIT and Informatics

• August 2017

LVHN is the only organization that has achieved all these HIT / Informatics awards













### **Clinical Request for Technology**

Lehigh Valley Health Network Burn Surgeon Team requested an app for referring hospital sites to send images and basic demographics of burn patients for triage purposes.





### **Enterprise Secure Text Solution**

- Offered to all Employees and Medical Staff
- Piloted extending Secure Messaging of Burn Images from Referring Hospitals





### **Enterprise Secure Text Solution**

- Too general for referring hospitals
- Difficult to provision customers at referring hospitals
- No Discrete Data Fields
- Burn Surgeons were not satisfied with secure text notifications
- Not an intuitive user interface for referring hospitals





**New App Planning Activities** 

- Spoke to burn surgeons about their specific requirements for Tele Burn mobile app.
- Researched vendors
- Vendor apps did not meet Burn Surgeons' needs
- CIO told us to build the app in 3 weeks







### **Custom App Requirements**

- Overarching theme Ease of Use
- Logging in takes user right to the camera
  - Images taken within the app
- Enter:
- Demographics
- Date of Injury



- Mechanism of Injury/Burn Type
- Sending physician name (from drop down)
- Contact Phone Number of sending site
- Submit Button
  - Once submitted photos from sending phone are deleted.

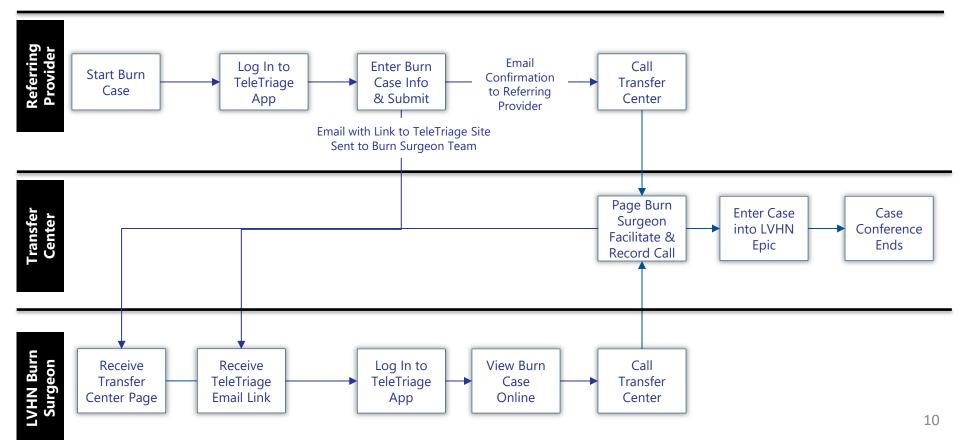
Once assessed – photos from provider phones and the cloud are deleted



### **LVHN TeleTriage Application** Fast and Secure Web-Based Tool for Burn Patient Referrals



#### LVHN TeleTriage Application Process Overview



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Provider asks for TeleTriage for a patient's burn with an LVHN burn surgeon

### **Burn Patient Arrives at Emergency Department or ExpressCARE**

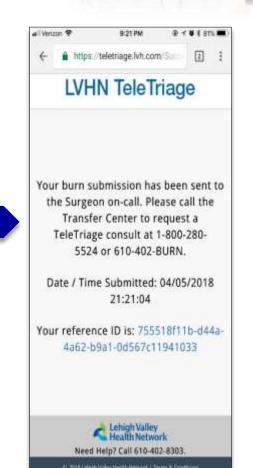


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Log in

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Create & Submit Case





#### Contact LVHN Transfer Center

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### **LVHN Burn Specialist TeleTriage Request**

#### LVHN Burn Surgeon On Call:

- 1. Receives email message
- 2. Is paged by Transfer Center
- 3. Links to TeleTriage Application
- 4. Reviews case, makes clinical decision

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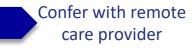
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LVHN TeleTriage

\* 8 84%

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#### **Review Case**



Log in to TeleTriage Application via Link in Email Notification

### **LVHN Transfer Center Manages Referral or Transfer**

- LVHN Transfer Center creates an patient record in Epic EHR for every patient triaged
  - Also coordinates patient coming to LVHN as an inpatient or outpatient

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#### Example Epic screen used by LVHN Transfer Center

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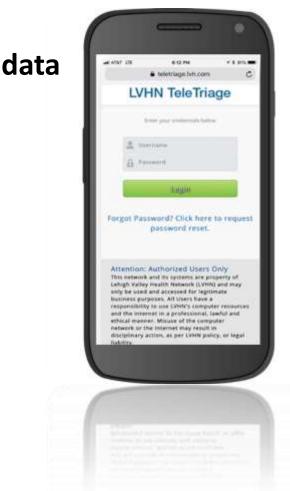




#### Example Epic real-time report to track TeleTriage and other transfers

### **Advantages of Custom Built Solutions**

- More control over the fields that collect the data
- Control over design and delivery
- Didn't need to wait for vendor functionality
- Meet a very aggressive timeline





### **Standards**

- Specification document
- Programming Language
- High Availability architecture externally exposed
- Take advantage of best practices within the industry
- Flexible design for future growth





# How long do we have?

- 4 days to design and create a proof of concept
- 3 weeks to design/build architecture and release the first production build
- Transmit images back to referring hospitals that opt-in



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### **Stakeholder Management**

- C-Suite
- CIO
- CMIO
- TeleHealth
- Burn Team
- Referring Hospitals
- Initial meeting to gather and review requirements
- Met with CMIO at key milestones to allow for approval and course correction

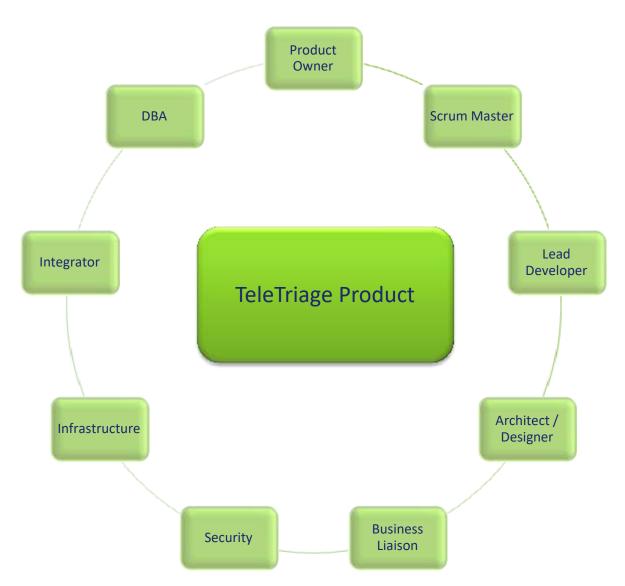


### **How We Moved Fast**

- Iteration
- Make decisions and stick to them
- Quick approvals
- Involve the right people from the start
- Collaboration vs compromise
- Focused on features



### **The Team**





### **Design for Today – Consider the Future**

- Designed for mobile but there are so many options
  - Native
  - Hybrid
  - Responsive is the winner!
- Intuitive little or no training should be required
- Fast can't take a long time to complete tasks
- Expandable needs to handle other tele needs
- Flexible Allow for future integration





### **Project Management – Not Quite Agile**

- Daily standup
  - What was accomplished
  - What was planning
  - Blockers
- Product backlog
- Sprint backlog
- Communication
  - Daily reports to stakeholders



### **Documentation is your friend**

- Began documenting from day 1
- Progressive elaboration
  - Continued to evolve as we progresses
- Supported collaboration
- Supported speed to market



### IT Security as a Partner – Not a Hurdle

- IT Security was considered from the beginning
- IT Security team part of the scrum team
- All architecture and design was vetting by security
- Actively engaged in design process
- Vulnerability and penetration testing
- Ongoing partner



### **TeleTriage Security**

- LVHN TeleTriage designed around security requirements
- Advanced authentication and record tracking numbers
- Data security
  - Data encryption while data in transit
  - Data storage encrypted while data at rest, online storage segmented
  - Patient digital images not stored on mobile devices
- Real-time event monitoring and alerting
- Advanced threat protection and anti-malware
- Ongoing patch management and updates
- Proactive security assessments
  - Monthly LVHN IS review and scanning
  - Annually IS and outside security vendor penetration testing
- Logging of activities





### Conclusion

- Successfully launched the application on-time
- Had the internal resources to build a custom application
- 47 locations
  - Adding additional sites weekly
  - TeleHealth works with legal and referring locations to bring online



# **Questions?**

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