

Argus 5, the new version of our widely-used secure clinical messaging software, is scheduled for public release in mid-March 2010. Argus 5 includes the following major enhancements.

1. Auto-online upgrades

Argus 5 includes the ability to automatically identify and download applicable upgrades and patches to assist with the maintenance and stability of Argus installed at your site.

All future Argus upgrades will be provided in this way. Only through upgrading to Argus 5 will you have this functionality.

2. Enhanced Argus Message Viewer

This Argus message administration utility has a greatly improved interface for easier management of messages, acknowledgements, delivery failures and message reprocessing.

New functionality for viewing message lists includes default and user-customisation of message filtering, additional fields and enhanced user assistance through icons, legends and mouseover information.

This new utility is co-installed on the main computer where ArgusMessenger is installed (e.g. the practice network server) and is also accessible via any computer at the practice on which the ArgusMessenger client is installed.

This utility also includes a status bar advising whether the site has an Argus Support Agreement and, if so, the expiry date.

3. Enhanced Argus Address Book Manager

This Argus address management utility has a greatly improved interface for easier user interaction with the Argus Users Directory (AUD) for querying, viewing, populating and managing address details of other Argus users with which practices communicate.

Like the Argus Message Viewer, this utility provides enhanced user assistance through icons, legends and mouseover information.

4. Argus Stats

In response to increasing demands from users we have included the Argus Stats functionality for reporting statistics on practice use of messaging – messages in and out, including ACK delivery failures.

Practices will have discretionary control over enabling/disabling this functionality but it is in their interests to have it enabled. Argus Stats will assist:

- practices monitoring their clinical messaging use;
- assist ArgusConnect and Argus Affinity GP Divisions/Networks to identify practices which have problems or low levels of usage, which will enable proactive remedial action such as software modification or additional training assistance or resources; and
- Argus Affinity Divisions to help plan, support and report on funding submissions and health programs that are underpinned by eHealth infrastructure like Argus.

5. Interoperability with Medical Objects

Argus 5 will enable two-way clinical information exchange between Argus 5 and Medical Objects – connecting our combined user bases of over 20,000 health professionals in every state and territory of Australia.

This will also pave the way for interconnectivity with all other messaging networks that are working with the National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) on industry connectivity. **Only by upgrading to Argus 5 will you have a pathway to this wider connectivity.**

6. Database change: From Firebird to PostgreSQL

Argus 5 implements a changeover to a PostgreSQL database, replacing the Firebird database which, when installed on the same computer with other software using a Firebird database, causes conflict problems. The upgrade process allows data migration from Argus 4.x to Argus 5.

7. Upgraded Bouncy Castle Encryption Libraries

The upgraded Bouncy Castle encryption libraries used in Argus will speed up the encryption and decryption of messages.

What is involved?

Argus 5 requires a completely new installation.

All GP Specialist and Allied Health practices that have a current Argus Priority Support contract will get assistance with the Argus 5 changeover installation at no extra cost.

GP, Specialist and Allied Health practices that do not have a current Argus Priority Support contract are strongly encouraged to take up Argus Priority Support by applying through our website before Argus 5 is released.