HIMSS HIELights

Highlighting HIE and RHIO Initiatives

May 2012

HIE NEWS

New HIE Toolkits Available

Looking for presentations on the basics of health information exchange? Check out the two-part series located in the HIMSS HIE Toolkit

- HIMSS HIE Presentation: The Basics
- HIMSS HIE Presentation: Putting the HIE into Practice

Ambulatory HIE Toolkit: Check out the Value Proposition brief to assist physicians and practices evaluating their ROI in participation in an HIE.

Track Medicare/Medicaid EHR Incentive Payments with HIMSS State HIT Dashboard

As eligible hospitals and eligible professionals continue receiving their Medicare or Medicaid EHR Incentive payments, the HIMSS State HIT Dashboard now includes information on both programs. The Dashboard, a primary, credible resource for current health IT initiatives in the United States, provides an easy-to-read, interactive map that tracks these activities in a searchable format by state. These two additions, Medicaid EHR Incentives and Medicare EHR Incentives, demonstrate HIMSS' commitment to providing a robust snapshot of major health IT initiatives across the nation in a single Dashboard tool. Read More

Arizona HIMSS Members Aide in Passage of Health IT Legislation

On April 4, 2012, Governor Jan Brewer of Arizona signed AZHB 2369 into law. Sponsored by Representative Cecil Ash and Representative Heather Carter, AZHB 2369 modifies and enhances state statutes dealing with health IT, e-prescribing and health information organizations (HIOs). The HIMSS Arizona Chapter collaborated with AZHeC and other healthcare community organizations to aid the passage of the bill. During the legislative process, AZHIMSS Members sent letters of support and offered their input as subject matter experts in health IT. Read more about the legislation here.

Seeking Health Information Exchange (HIE) Evaluators for Two AHRQ Studies

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is seeking input from health information exchange (HIE) project evaluators to participate in studies to assess the usability and usefulness of a revised version of the AHRQ HIE Evaluation Toolkit. Participants should not have used the AHRQ HIE Evaluation Toolkit.

- Study 1 is a usability study and seeks participants developing an HIE project evaluation plan with limited experience in HIE project evaluation.
- Study 2 seeks participants who will be developing an evaluation plan in the latter part of 2012. Participation in Study 2 will require use of a

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Legal Corner

Lessons for HIOs Regarding HIPAA Enforcement
By Allen Briskin and Gerry Hinkley, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Gerry Hinkley

Allen Briskin

Health information sharing organizations (HIOs) have not been the target of government enforcement actions involving HIPAA, but can learn valuable lessons from examining recent enforcement cases by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Office of Civil Rights (OCR). In recent years, OCR has settled eight well-publicized enforcement actions involving covered entities' violations of HIPAA's Privacy and Security Rules. Read More >>

Public Health and HIE

Public Health and HIEs: Meaningful Use Stage 2, Part 2
By Noam H. Arzt, PhD, FHIMSS

In my last column I reviewed the highlights of the new CMS Notice of

revised HIE Evaluation Toolkit in planning the HIE project evaluation.

Participation in both of the studies includes an interview of up to 90 minutes. Participants in each study will receive $100. If interested in participating, please e-mail Westat at or call toll-free 888-653-4336 by May 13, for Study 1 and by June 1, for Study 2. Contact Mary Crimmins for more information.

New Resources for Implementing Health Information Sharing: Markle Common Framework Policies in Practice

Responding to the needs of local, state, and regional health information sharing efforts, Markle Connecting for Health has released *the Markle Common Framework Policies in Practice for Health Information Sharing* to support implementation.

HIE Formation

Part XV: Three Numbers You'll Need to Know
By Laura Kolkman, RN, MS, FHIMSS, and Bob Brown

In this series of monthly articles, the authors, based in part on their recently published book, discuss current HIE-related events and leading practices within the context of forming an HIE initiative in your state, region or community. This is Part 13 of the series. You can access previous installments at the HIELights e-newsletter archives.

Laura Kolkman, RN, MS, FHIMSS

Bob Brown

There are three important numbers you need to know and the sooner you know them - and use them - the easier your journey to form an HIE will be. The numbers in question are phone numbers and they'll help you reach out to and connect with: the organization that is your Stare Designated Entity (SDE); the individual that is your State HIT Coordinator, and the organization that is the Regional Extension Center (REC) for your anticipated service area. Read More >>

The Intersection of Accountable Care Organizations & Health Information Exchange Organizations

Accountable care is an emerging, patient-centered, collaborative model designed to improved care quality and reduce cost through increased efficiencies across and among providers treating the patient. The key to success with Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) is care coordination. Care coordination must be well-orchestrated, addressing the complex interdependency of multiple providers and organizations providing treatment and care for a single patient, so Health Information Technology (HIT) and Health Information Exchange (HIE) are at the core of success. In this issue of *HIELights*, several articles below address the intersection of HIE and ACO concepts ranging from patient engagement and lessons from around the globe.

In addition, check out the HIMSS Blog by Tom Keefe, Senior Director of State Government Relations: "As health IT advocates, we have to make sure that our fellow citizens and consumers understand health IT's impact on the success of ACOs. The ACOs have the potential for transformational change by fundamentally altering the clinical, operational and business models driving much of today's healthcare industry' stated Mr. Keefe. Finally, check out the HIMSS HIE

Noam Arzt, PhD, FHIMSS Proposed Rule-making (NPRM) for Stage 2 Meaningful use, and ONC's corresponding Notice of Proposed Rule-making (NPRM) for the related standards and implementation specifications. Now that we have all had time to review these, here are some of the issues public health is struggling with in trying to respond to the proposed rules. Read More >>

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

May 20
HIMSS Middle East 12 Conference & Health IT Leadership Summit

May 23
HIMSS13 Call for Reviewers Deadline

May 30
HIMSS13 Call for Proposals Deadline

June 5-7
World Congress on Information Technology 2012

June 11-12
8th Annual Government Health IT Conference & Exhibition

June 29
2012 mHealth Summit Call for Presentations Deadline

Sept. 10-14
National Health IT Week

Dec. 3-5
2012 mHealth Summit

Jan. 28-Feb. 2, 2013
2013 Connectathon

Toolkit for a *members-only access* brief, "[Employers Leveraging the ACO Model](#)."

Patient Engagement—The Foundation for Accountable Care Success

By Gary Guyll, Strategic Initiatives, InteliChart, LLC

The successful Health Information Exchange (HIE) and Accountable Care Organization (ACO) requires a number of activities and players to work in concert creating an environment of healthy living. At the core is the patient's willingness to be fully engaged in their own healthcare experience. A tool created to enable this engagement is the Patient Portal. By definition the Patient Portal should be a source of personal health information allowing patients access to actionable events and information. Patient Portal availability should not imply patient engagement will automatically happen. Patient Portal is more than a tool, it is part of a process designed to fully engage patients, families, staff and others in the care of the patient. This process should provide patients the confidence to empower their own care. [Read more](#).

Accountable and Collaborative Care—Lessons Learned From Care Programs Across the Globe

By Alan Gilbert, MPA, FHIMSS, Partner, Value Catalyst Consulting, LLC

The United States continues to move towards Accountable and Collaborative Care Solutions like HIEs, ACOs, Patient Centered Medical Homes, Health Homes, Bundled Payment and Value Based Purchasing to name a few of today's emerging directions. While experiencing change, it is important to study similar projects and processes that have been implemented across the globe. [Read more](#).

Health Information Exchange Provides the Core Structure of Accountable Care Organizations

By John Tempesco, Chief Marketing Officer, ICA

Reference to Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) appears in only seven pages of the massive healthcare reform law yet in healthcare circles ACOs have become one of the most discussed and debated pieces of that legislation. Conceived as a model for streamlining and improving delivery of health services through the realignment of incentives, ACOs seek to synchronize the motives and actions among physicians, clinicians and hospitals to better coordinate care to Medicare beneficiaries and other patients while keeping costs down. According to the legislation, an ACO must agree to manage all of the healthcare needs of a minimum of 5,000 Medicare beneficiaries for at least three years. [Read more](#).

Two Beacon Community Programs Collaborate to Improve Healthcare Quality in their Regions

Quality Health Network (QHN) and [HealthBridge](#) announced their agreement to work together to facilitate quality improvement initiatives through the use of advanced data analytics capabilities for the communities they serve. As part of the agreement, QHN will acquire access to the data analytics and business intelligence tools HealthBridge uses. [Read more](#).

complimentary edition, <u>click here</u>.

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