Interoperability Leading to Information Exchange

November 2012 Vol. 1, No. 2

Inbox

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By Information Xchange Staff

This is the final issue most readers of HIMSS *Information Xchange* will receive without opting-in for a free subscription. Stay up to date on the community, trends and practical applications surrounding interoperability and standards leading to information exchange—click the link in the headline above, fill in your contact information and check "*Information Xchange*" to receive this eNewsletter the first Thursday of every month.

Nationwide Health Information Network Transitions to eHealth Exchange

By Information Xchange Staff

The Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) announced the successful transition of the Nationwide Health Information Network Exchange to eHealth Exchange, a public-private partnership that represents ONC's commitment to support health information exchange innovation in the private sector.

Health IT Testing Program Enables Data Sharing for Approximately 50 Percent of US Patients and Providers

By Information Xchange Staff

More than half the US population and their healthcare providers could soon have access to health data shared across multiple states and systems. The EHR/HIE Interoperability Workgroup, a public-private partnership of states, public agencies, federally-funded HIEs and health IT companies, established a program to test and certify EHRs and other health IT to enable reliable transfer of data within and across organizational and state boundaries. Current consensus based technical specifications include: 1) Direct Exchange; 2) Patient Record Lookup; and C32 Continuity of Card Document (CCD). Click the headline or the links above to learn more.

CE-IT Community to Recap AAMI/FDA Interoperability Summit

By Information Xchange Staff

The 12th in a series of virtual town hall meetings from the CE-IT Community is scheduled for Nov. 14. This complimentary, 90-minute session will explore the AAMI/FDA Interoperability Summit. The November Virtual Town Hall will be moderated by Elliot Sloane, PhD, and will feature a presentation by Carol Davis-Smith of Kaiser Permanente. Click the headline above to register.

Massachusetts HIE Goes Live

Opinion

Are We in Drive or Spinning our Wheels on the Road to Interoperability?

By Joyce Sensmeier, MS, RN-BC, CPHIMS, FHIMSS, FAAN

Last month, there were multiple news items and announcements related to the topics of interoperability and health information exchange. This caught my attention because, even though interoperability has been one of my areas of focus for a several years, I can't recall a similar timeframe when the topic was so visible in the headlines. One not-so-surprising announcement was that clinicians want access to health information so that they can meet the needs of the patients they serve. Click the headline to read more.

Exchanges

'The Future is an Interoperable Community that Delivers Better Healthcare and Moves to Health as an Outcome'
An Interview with Keith Salzman, MD, MPH

By Matt Schlossberg

By Information Xchange Staff
Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick recently sent his personal health record from one hospital to another via the Massachusetts HIE, the first such transaction on the new system. As described in a press release, "Governor Patrick was joined by health care leaders and physicians at MMassachusetts General Hospital as he hit send on the transaction, sending his record in real-time across the state. Baystate Health in Springfield confirmed receipt of the record in real-time via videoconference. Participating in the event at MGH were representatives from 11 healthcare organizations in Massachusetts that are early adopters of the HIE system, also known as 'Mass HI-way.'"

LCF Research's Director of Health Informatics Retires

By Information Xchange Staff
Jeff Blair, Director of Health Informatics for LCF Research, retired last month. For the past seven years, Mr. Blair has been a part of the leadership team for the New Mexico Health Information Collaborative (NMHIC), the state's health information exchange (HIE) network. Click the headline above to read more.

Best Practices

The Louisiana Approach to Achieving the Stage 1 Public Health Meaningful Use Immunization Option

The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum (LHCQF) is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to reshaping the quality, safety, and value of healthcare for Louisiana state residents. According to LHCQF, supporting the meaningful use of EHRs and facilitating statewide HIE are keys to achieving the goals of better health outcomes and creating efficiencies in the delivery of care.

Reducing Vaccine Preventable Disease through Immunization Registries

The case study highlights the collaboration between Michigan's immunization registry and the state's regional extension center (REC). These two entities have been working together to ensure providers can satisfy the public health requirements for Meaningful Use Stage 1.

Immunization Registry in San Diego County

The San Diego Beacon Community (SDBC) is a partnership of health care providers, clinics, hospitals, emergency medical services and public health organizations. SDBC's goal is to improve the quality of health care delivered for all San Diegans using health IT. The SDBC's largest investment is creating an HIE to support an electronic network that allows doctors to obtain patient health information from participating sites. In addition to creating the HIE, SDBC has a number of other goals and objectives, including increased provider participation in the San Diego Immunization Registry.

Policy Pulse

Standards, Implementation Specifications, and Certification Criteria for EHR Technology, 2014 Edition; Revisions to the Permanent Certification Program for Health IT

By Information Xchange Staff
With release of the final rule on Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 2, the Secretary of Health & Human Services adopts certification criteria that establish the technical capabilities and specifies consensus standards and implementation specifications for Certified EHR Technology. At a minimum, EHRs will need to include, and support the achievement of Meaningful Use by eligible professionals, eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals under the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. Beginning with the EHR reporting periods in fiscal year and calendar year 2014, this final rule also makes changes to the permanent

Keith Salzman, MD, MPH, is the CMIO and Vice President of CACI International Healthcare Solutions Group and is the Chair of the HIMSS Interoperability & Standards (I&S) Committee. Dr Salzman spent a few minutes with *Information Xchange*, discussing his role on the I&S Committee, the evolution of interoperability in healthcare, and the market trends in the evolution of information exchanges.

Showcase Connection

HL7 Consolidated CDA Registration Open Until Nov. 16

By Information Xchange Staff
For the first time ever, the Consolidated CDA® standard developed by Health Story Project, in collaboration with HL7 and IHE, will be available for testing! During the Intergrating Health Enterpricse (IHE) North American Connectathon in Chicago, January 28 – February 2, 2013, developers of health information systems will be able to demonstrate how their products interoperate with the Consolidated CDA® both with Document creators and consumers. Discover more about HL7 Consolidated CDA® system registration online by clicking the headline above.

Networking

Expand your network by connecting to HIMSS on these social media sites:

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Renew Your HIMSS Membership?

Ensure the continuation of your HIMSS member benefits, login to the **Member Center** to renew your membership today. If you need a paper invoice, request one via

certification program for health information technology, including changing the program's title to the ONC HIT Certification Program. Click the link in the headline to read the HIMSS Executive Summary.

Stage 2 Final Rule Crosswalk from Meaningful Use Objectives to Standards

By Keith W. Boone, Standards Architect, GE Healthcare
Mr. Boone has created a spreadsheet that puts together a crosswalk from Meaningful Use objectives to certification and from certification to standards. Access the spreadsheet on Mr., Boone's website by clicking the headline above.

Information-Sharing Standards Urged

By Ashok Selvam, posted on ModernPhyscian.com: October 4, 2012
The advent of new delivery systems and payment models makes pushing for coordinated, value-based care to establish health information exchanges a priority, according to a new report from the Bipartisan Policy Center, a Washington think tank. Physicians, specialists and hospitals need to collaborate and adopt standards for electronic information-sharing that will meet the requirements of the CMS' EHR incentive programs, according to the latest report. Click the link above to access the report.

House Leaders Express Concern that Nearly $10 Billion in Health IT Spending May Have Been Wasted

By Ethan Baron
The top House policymakers on healthcare are concerned that the Department of Health & Human Services is squandering taxpayer dollars by asking little of providers in return for EHR incentive payments. Recent reports revealed that the EHR program may be leading to higher Medicare spending and greater inefficiencies while doing little, if anything, to improve health outcomes. The policymakers have asked HHS Sec. Kathleen Sebelius to immediately suspend the distribution of incentive payments related to the EHR program. HHS has since pushed back against such a move. Click the headline to read more.

NLM Set to Launch Value Set Authority Center

By Information Xchange Staff
The National Library of Medicine (NLM), in collaboration with the ONC and CMS, will soon launch the NLM Value Set Authority Center (VSAC). Initially the VSAC will provide downloadable access to all official versions of vocabulary Value Sets contained in Clinical Quality Measures that support Meaningful Use Stage 2. The value sets provide lists of the numerical values and individual names from standard vocabularies used to define the clinical concepts (e.g., diabetes, clinical visit) used in the quality measures. The content of the VSAC will gradually expand to incorporate value sets for other use cases, as well as for new measures and updates to existing measures. Click the headline above to learn more.

ONC launches HIT-FACA Workgroup Application Database

By Information Xchange Staff
As part of ongoing efforts to recruit highly qualified workgroup members, ONC has developed an online database system to allow anyone with an interest in contributing his or her expertise in the numerous aspects of health IT to submit their information for future consideration for Health Information Technology Federal Advisory Committee (HIT-FACA) workgroup membership. Whenever a new workgroup is formed, or as current workgroups experience turnover, ONC will turn to this resource first to identify potential workgroup members. If you wish to be considered for workgroups, register by clicking the headline above.

Volunteer Exchange

Information Xchange Call for Contributors

By Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson
Information Xchange is seeking columnists to offer their expertise and opinions

e-mail to the Member Services department. You can also renew by phone at 312-664-4467 (option 8, then 2).

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Nov. 7-8
HIMSS Virtual Conference & Expo

Nov. 8
Meaningful Use Regional Education (Dallas)

Nov. 11-16
Healthcare Transformation Project Annual Forum

Nov. 13
Meaningful Use Regional Education (Philadelphia)

Deadline: Thru Nov. 16
Connectathon Consolidated CDA Testing Registration

Dec. 3-7
AAMI Standards Week

Dec. 3-5
2012 mHealth Summit

Dec. 12-13
Privacy & Security Forum

Jan 13-18, 2013
HL7 Working Group Meeting

Jan. 28-Feb. 2, 2013
2013 Connectathon

March 3-7, 2013
2013 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition

on interoperability and standards leading to information exchange. Columnists can submit content sporadically throughout the year or monthly. Of particular interest are columns on practical solutions within healthcare environments for integrating information across different systems; public policy promoting the use of electronic health information; trends on the evolution of health IT standards testing, and deployment; technical specifications for interoperability; and innovative activities leading to health information exchange. If you have an idea for a column, please send a short abstract and your CV to Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson at the e-mail link embedded in the byline above.

Participants Needed for New I&S Committee Work Groups

By Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson
The new Interoperability & Standards (I&S) Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on a variety of work groups including:

- HIMSS Interoperability Policy Section (HIPS) Work Group
- Enterprise Architecture (EA) Work Group
- I&S Section of the mHIMSS Roadmap (ISS mHealth) Work Group
- I&S Toolkit & Web Resource (Toolkit) Work Group (TBD)
- Health IT Standards (Standards) Work Group (TBD)
- Technical Information Exchange (Tech-IE) Work Group (TBD)

If you would like to volunteer to serve on any of the I&S Committee Work Groups please contact Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson.

HIMSS Accountable Care Task Force Seeks Members

By Information Xchange Staff
The HIMSS Accountable Care Task Force is accepting members for this new Task Force. The Task Force will be focused on the adoption and use of Health Information Technology for Accountable Care organizations and will be co-chaired by Paul Oates, CPHIMS, FHIMSS, IT Architecture, Cigna and Lee Lemelson, RPh, System Vice President, Clinical Applications, Banner Health. The group will develop use cases and best practices for Accountable Care Organizations. Task Force participation is open to all current HIMSS members. Meeting times TBD. Additionally, because of the enormous interest in this area, this task force has a large number of members. To help us get to know each other's background, skill set and interest, please take a moment to fill out this brief survey. The results will be circulated to our group prior to the meeting.

HIMSS HIE Community Seeks Member Volunteers

By Julie Moffitt
The HIMSS HIE Community is currently seeking members for a variety of task forces and work groups, including the HIE Communications Task Force, the Ambulatory HIE Toolkit Work Group, and the Public Comment Work Group. If you are interested in joining, contact Julie Moffitt or visit the HIE Community page online.

Note: The inclusion of an organization name, product or service in this publication should not be construed as a HIMSS endorsement of such organization, product or service, nor is the failure to include an organization name, product or service to be construed as disapproval.

Information Xchange features extended coverage of all aspects pertaining to interoperability and standards leading to health information exchange. Published on the first Thursday of the month, this newsletter provides the latest industry news, case studies and expert interviews. *Information Xchange* is a complimentary resource for HIMSS members, organizations, government agencies and anyone involved and interested in today's interoperability, standards and information exchange activities.

We hope you have enjoyed *Information Xchange*. If you and your colleagues would like to permanently subscribe to each and every complimentary edition, click here.

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