e-HAC Subcommittee Update

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December 6, 2018

HIE Incentive Subcommittee Update

- The goals of the subcommittee will be supported through the implementation of the Texas Health Information Exchange Implementation Advanced Planning Document (HIE IAPD), which is a funding mechanism supported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) through the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH).

- HITECH governs incentive payments to eligible professionals and eligible hospitals to promote the adoption and meaningful use of certified electronic health record (EHR) technology to promote health care quality and the exchange of health care information.

HIE Connectivity Project

The HIE Connectivity Project is the current Texas Medicaid HIE initiative funded by CMS through the HIE IAPD. The primary objectives of this Project are to increase HIE use and adoption by Texas Medicaid providers and create additional capacity (e.g., additional HIE organizations) in the state of Texas that can support that use and adoption.   The HIE Connectivity Project will accomplish its primary objectives by implementing the following three strategies:

HIE Connectivity Project (continued)

- **Strategy 1**: Medicaid Provider HIE Connectivity. This strategy will help Medicaid providers connect to HHSC-approved local HIE organizations. These connections will facilitate electronic reporting and data exchange between providers and Texas Medicaid. Texas Government Code, Subchapter V, Health Information Exchange Systems, Section 531.901(4), defines a local or regional health information exchange.

- **Strategy 2**: HIE Infrastructure. This strategy includes enhancing the state's HIE infrastructure to support connectivity with the state's Medicaid system and assisting local HIEs in implementing connections to HIETexas, which is a set of state-level shared services managed by the Texas Health Services Authority (THSA).

HIE Connectivity Project (continued)

- **Strategy 3**: Emergency Department Encounter Notifications (EDEN). This strategy will help Texas Medicaid reduce emergency department (ED) utilization and hospital readmissions by enabling better follow-up care through the electronic receipt of Health Level Seven (HL7) Admission, Discharge, and Transfer (ADT) data from hospital EDs and publishing alerts to Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) or Dental Maintenance Organizations (DMOs) when a patient in their network is admitted to the ED, facilitating timely care coordination.

Subcommittee Status

- Successful implementation of the three IAPD strategies will result in increased HIE adoption and use by Medicaid providers, creation of new HIE capacity in the State, and bring clinical information into the Texas Medicaid program via HIE[1].

- As a result of this project, and after concluding that waiver funds cannot be used for there incentives, the subcommittee will continue to meet into 2019 to see if additional options can be developed to implement this recommendation.

- Generally, the eHAC has discussed the need to integrate all provider incentives developed through the eHAC with state and federal efforts such as Promoting Interoperability and the 1115 waiver program.