



Health Information Technology in Texas

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- Health information technology background
 - Health information technology sections of HB1218
 - Medicaid Health Information Exchange Advisory Committee
 - Medicaid Health Information Exchange System
 - Local/regional health information exchange pilot
 - Related health information technology activities
 - Office of e-Health Coordination
 - Statewide health information exchange
 - Medicaid electronic health record incentive program
 - Regional extension centers

Health Information Technology Background

- Health Information Technology is the use of information and communication technology in health care. Health Information Technology can include:
 - electronic health records
 - personal health records
 - e-mail communication
 - clinical alerts and reminders
 - computerized decision support systems
 - hand-held devices
 - other technologies that store, protect, retrieve and transfer clinical, administrative, and financial information electronically within health care settings.

Health Information Technology Background

- ***Electronic Health Record (EHR)*** – An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that can be created, gathered, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff.
- ***Health Information Exchange (HIE)*** – The electronic movement of health-related information among organizations according to nationally recognized standards.
- ***Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO)*** – A health information organization that brings together health care stakeholders within a defined geographic area and governs health information exchange among them for the purpose of improving health and care in that community.

Health Information Technology Legislative Initiatives

- Medicaid HIE Advisory Committee
 - Advisory committee members represent a broad range of health care stakeholders.
 - Meetings held February 1, 2010 and April 2, 2010.
 - Committee has provided input on the Medicaid HIE System, the Medicaid EHR incentive program, and Medicaid medical privacy and security policies.

Health Information Technology Legislative Initiatives

- Medicaid HIE System – Stage 1
 - Claims-based electronic health record – the Medicaid Eligibility and Health Information Services (MEHIS) will serve as the platform for the claims-based EHR, scheduled to go-live in 2011.
 - Electronic prescribing – Web-based eRx tool to be implemented through MEHIS.
 - Managed Care Organization (MCO) encounter data – Reporting requirement included in Sept 2009 MCO contract amendment.
 - Standards – HHSC will follow HIT standards developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- Medicaid HIE System – Stages 2 and 3
 - Based on the recommendations from the advisory committee and feedback from interested parties, HHSC may expand the HIE system in stages two and three.

Health Information Technology Legislative Initiatives

- Local/regional HIE pilot HHSC will establish a pilot project to determine the feasibility, costs, and benefits of exchanging secure electronic health information between the commission and local or regional HIE initiatives.
 - Initially, the pilot will be limited to the exchange of medication history information.
 - HHSC has identified 8 local HIE organizations for potential participation.
 - Report due to the legislature on the pilot and the Medicaid HIE System by January 1, 2011.

Related Health Information Technology Activities

- Statewide Health Information Exchange
 - Funding authority from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for planning and implementation grants to states or qualified state-designated entities to facilitate and expand HIE.
 - In March 2010, the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology awarded the Health and Human Services Commission \$28.8 million over four years for the Texas Statewide HIE Cooperative Agreement Program.
 - Implementation will be a coordinated effort between HHSC and Texas Health Services Authority.

Related Health Information Technology Activities

- Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) incentive program
 - Incentives for eligible providers and hospitals to encourage the adoption and use of EHRs.
 - Providers must make ‘meaningful use’ of the EHRs to qualify for the incentives.
 - Authorizes a 100% federal match for incentive payments to providers.
 - Authorizes a 90% federal match for state’s administrative costs to establish process for incentive payments.
 - Will be included in the State Medicaid HIT Plan.

Related Health Information Technology Activities

- HIT Regional Extension Centers (RECs)
 - Federally-funded organizations structured to help primary care physicians select, adopt, and make ‘meaningful use’ of EHRs.
 - Four Texas consortia were selected to be RECs.
 - Coordination among RECs, state HIE planning process, and Medicaid HIT planning process.
 - Coordinated applications covering the state.
 - No explicit role for the state in selecting or operating RECs.

Related Health Information Technology Activities

- The new Office of e-Health Coordination is a function of the Office of Health Services, specifically to:
 - Coordinate health information policy and information for the HHS Enterprise.
 - Ensure a coordinated approach to maximize funding opportunities and leverage resources across the HHS enterprise.
 - Focus on big picture functions such as ARRA planning.