



Health Information Exchange Coordinating Committee (HIECC) Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: GoToWebinar

Members Present: Secretary Mayhew, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Craig Dalton, Jarrod Fowler, Ricardo Gomez, Tab Harris, Tom Herring, Michael Jackson, Peter Kress, Gay Munyon, Alex Romillo, Marie Ruddy, Dr. Dennis Saver, Kim Streit, Elizabeth Templeton proxy for Tab Harris, Kimberly Tendrich, Wences Troncoso and Dr. Hymin Zucker.

Presenters: Allison Culpepper, Florida Department of Health (Florida Health); and Aaron Parsons, Audacious Inquiry (Ai).

Agency Staff Present: Jaime Bustos, Kim Davis Allen, Heidi Fox, Carrie Gaudio, Antoinette Gonzalez, Nikole Helvey, Pam King, Suzanne Kirayoglu, Molly McKinstry, Brenda Phinney, Dana Watson, and Chris Wilkey

Interested Parties Present: Alexandra Abboud, Ana Best, Sharonda Boon, Vicky Camero, Evan Carter, Kathleen Freligh, Cassandra Garza, Gina Gomez, Holly Graham; Lila Labarces, Toni Large, Liz Miller, Emily Reid, Deborah Rodin, David Rogers, Amber Smith, Kristin Snyder, Meagan Towner, and Shelley Turcou.

Meeting Materials: HIECC Meeting Packet. Copies of meeting materials are posted on:
<http://www.fhin.net/committeesAndCouncils/hiecc.shtml>

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Ms. Heidi Fox called the meeting of the Health Information Exchange Coordinating Committee (HIECC) to order at 10:00 a.m., called roll, and welcomed members.

Agency Updates

Secretary Mary Mayhew welcomed the committee and guests to the meeting. She noted that health information technology and the electronic exchange of health information hold great opportunity to support the delivery of high quality, efficient, and cost-effective care. The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) continues to work on its enterprise transformation initiative, leveraging its own technology infrastructure to improve the care of the patients served.

Secretary Mayhew expressed thanks to the committee for their help to guide and shape the state of Health Information Exchange (HIE) in Florida. Florida has come a long way in the development of HIE solutions that make sense for Florida stakeholders, and the Agency is proud of the statewide utilization of Florida



HIE Services to reduce unnecessary readmissions and support care coordination. With the support of the committee, the Agency will continue to see increased utilization of electronic health records along with the expansion of the secure exchange among health care organizations, patients, and providers in Florida.

Secretary Mayhew noted that the shift from fee-for-service to value-focused managed care has offered the opportunity to consider how Florida can use data to improve health care. The Secretary asked the committee to offer suggestions for how the state could further support real-time access to clinical data. She said that Governor DeSantis is supportive of transparency and increased consumer access, and she shared examples of how care coordination benefits patients, noting that care coordination drives quality, efficiency, and efficacy.

Previous Action Items

Ms. Fox reviewed the action items from the November 29, 2019 meeting of the HIECC, noting that all action items were complete.

1. Peter Kress will connect Florida HIE Staff with Leading Age's Center for Aging Services and Technology (CAST) to provide input on an upcoming national report on Long-Term & Post-Acute Care HIE Activities.
2. Agency staff will send out an ePrescribing Clearinghouse survey for members to complete.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Ms. Fox reviewed the minutes from the March 29, 2019 HIECC meeting. Mr. Wences Troncoso moved for approval of the minutes, with Mr. Michael Jackson seconding. The committee approved the minutes unanimously.

Florida HIE Services Update

Mr. Aaron Parsons reported on current HIE activities. The Encounter Notification Service (ENS) now has 225 data sources, covering 97% of all acute care beds in Florida and 86% of the inpatient rehabilitation hospital beds. ENS sends real-time notice of patient hospital encounters to 129 subscribing organizations, including 24 Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), 23 health plans, 70 provider groups, including 20 Community Health Centers and 50 other primary care and specialty practices, and 12 health systems; including over 80 hospitals. Approximately 140 Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) have signed up to be data sources.

There are over 10.7 million lives now covered by ENS. All the Medicaid Managed Care Plans are ENS subscribers. Over 1.4 million notifications are delivered per month to subscribers when their members are admitted or discharged from a participating facility. These metrics show substantial growth in the service quarterly and annually.



Mr. Parsons reported that the ENS recently added 85 new SNFs as data sources. Ms. Molly McKinstry asked for more detail on how the data gathered from SNFs will bring value to subscribers. Mr. Parsons responded that ENS participants requested SNF connectivity due to valuable care coordination opportunities. As they begin to subscribe to ENS, the benefits to SNF data sources will increase. Upon admission to the SNF, patients will be automatically added to the SNF ENS patient panel. The SNF will then be notified of recently discharged patients who end up back in the hospital, and can also be notified of the other parties who are subscribed to the patient, further facilitating care coordination efforts.

Mr. Parsons reported that the State Gateway offered by Florida HIE Services is a query exchange network, which offers an on-ramp and support for exchange on the nationwide eHealth Exchange for participants who cannot connect directly. The State Gateway currently connects Orlando Health to Disney's Center for Living Well, AdventHealth, and Memorial Healthcare System. Guardian Health Services onboarded to the eHealth Exchange and is working to connect to Orlando Health via the State Gateway. Holy Cross Hospital has nearly completed connectivity to the State Gateway, and Pediatric Associates is scheduled to be connected later this year. Ms. Marie Ruddy expressed interest in connecting Nemours to organizations on the State Gateway and Mr. Parsons will coordinate with her to facilitate connectivity.

Program Metrics Update

Ms. Carrie Gaudio reported on metrics from other programs under the purview of the Office of HIE. The Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program is currently processing 2018 program year applications. Stage 3 of Meaningful Use is now mandatory for participating providers. Payment information for the program was reviewed.

Ms. Gaudio reported on the Agency's tracking of Electronic Prescribing (ePrescribing) rates in Florida. The metrics are regularly updated on www.FHIN.net, with data coming from Change Healthcare and Surescripts. The data are used to compare Florida to national ePrescribing averages and include information about ePrescribing of Controlled Substances (EPCS).

At the last HIECC meeting, a regular third quarter decrease was noted. While third quarter decreases are consistent, they are generally regained by the end of the year. This year they were not. Mr. Jackson suggested the decrease could be related to the passing of House Bill 21. He suggested that tighter formulary policies by health plans may be part of the cause. Mr. Troncoso questioned how health plan formularies could be responsible for these decreases, noting that health plans generally change their formularies only once per year.

Mr. Jackson told the committee that the intent of the 2019 House Bill 21 was to mandate Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances (EPCS). Mr. Jackson and Mr. Troncoso discussed prescriber behavior changes in response to the new laws surrounding opioid prescribing. Mr. Troncoso noted that he is interested in seeing next year's metrics, where the changes from House Bill 21 may be evident.



Outreach Update

Ms. Pamela King reviewed the HIE Outreach team's 2019 activity goals and gave a status update on each. As of August 31, 2019, the Outreach team has hosted 37 Health Information Technology (IT) Webinars of the 48 set in the goal. They have held exhibits at 34 events and spoke at 16 of the events attended, surpassing 2019 outreach goals. The status of the 2019 outcome goals were also reviewed, with all ENS goals anticipated to be achieved by the end of the year.

Mr. Chris Wilkey presented social media statistics for 2019 so far. He reported on continuing increases in followers on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. He noted an impressive 1.23% engagement rate on Twitter, and a 3.16% engagement rate on LinkedIn. The HIECC members asked for a comparison of Florida's HIE social media engagement with other large state HIEs and Mr. Wilkey noted that Florida compares well in terms of followers, providing a few examples of other states, and said that he will look into other states' engagement rates.

The outreach team has begun filming videos of HIE advocates, with seven videos now posted to the Agency's YouTube channel and linked to from www.florida-hie.net and three more videos are planned before the end of the year. Mr. Wilkey announced that the Outreach team would also be publishing Podcasts, including *Health IT: A Physician's Perspective*, and *Health IT: A Patient's Perspective*.

The Outreach team will be attending the Integrate Conference in Ft. Lauderdale on September 24, 2019 and the North-Central Florida Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) event in Orlando on September 26, 2019. Ms. Nikole Helvey informed the committee that Secretary Mayhew and Senator Gayle Harrell will be speaking at the HIMSS event.

ePrescribing Clearinghouse Discussion

Ms. King informed the committee of the Agency's intention to expand the information that is available on the ePrescribing Clearinghouse webpage. The Agency is directed to provide information online regarding ePrescribing, including advantages, guidance, and program information (Section 408.0611, FS). Passed this year, Florida House Bill 831 requires providers that use an EHR system to ePrescribe by July 2020, or licensure renewal date, whichever is sooner. The Agency plans to update the ePrescribing materials available on the web to share information on new requirements and to make existing information more accessible. Ms. King shared a mock-up of the page with current ePrescribing information. The Agency plans to move the ePrescribing Clearinghouse from www.FHIN.net to the Agency's homepage. Ms. King requested committee Members provide input and feedback on what information would be beneficial to include on the updated site.



Health IT Guide on FloridaHealthFinder.gov

Ms. Nikole Helvey reported that the Agency is adding a Health IT Guide to the Agency's FloridaHealthFinder.gov site, as recommended in the 2018 HIE environmental study done in 2018. This educational landing page will provide explanations of key Health IT concepts, links to Agency initiatives, and links to national sites. Ms. Helvey shared a potential mock-up of the landing page and asked the committee to share ideas and suggestions about content to be included.

eCase Reporting

Ms. Allison Culpepper, with Florida Health (DOH) Bureau of Epidemiology, told the committee about the Electronic Case Reporting (eCR) project. She described eCR as the automatic submission of disease cases through an EHR from the clinical care location to Florida Health through an intermediary platform. She said that while reporting is mandated, many reports are never completed. She went on to note that using eCR improves reporting, which supports the implementation of public health interventions and limits further spread of infectious agents.

Ms. Culpepper gave the committee a brief technical overview of how eCR works. Ms. Fox noted that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) hosts the intermediary tool and it is shared throughout the states. Ms. Culpepper confirmed that there are currently six states who have deployed eCR.

Ms. Kim Streit asked if any Florida hospitals are using eCR. Ms. Culpepper replied that currently, hospitals in Florida are not yet using eCR. They are doing electronic lab (e-lab) reporting, but all clinical reporting is still manual. DOH intends to pilot with several EHR vendors (Cerner, Epic, and Allscripts) who have already set up eCR for other states. Ms. Streit expressed that she looks forward to eCR being in place, offered to help with outreach, and will meet with Ms. Culpepper to coordinate.

Tampa General and Nemours have offered to conduct pilot programs. The eCR project will begin with the specific diseases of Salmonella, Hepatitis B, Pertussis, and Zika with an end goal of having all 100 reportable diseases included. Mr. Craig Dalton inquired about why the focus was on those specific diseases first, and Ms. Culpepper replied that the CDC chose them as part of the national initiative.

Dr. Saver explained that the many hospitals systems have eCR capability built into their EHR, but it needs to be activated. He asked if all Certified EHR Technologies are natively capable of eCR. Ms. Fox answered that all EHRs certified with the 2015 edition are capable of eCR. Ms. Culpepper shared an example of a use case regarding opioid overdoses to illustrate the benefits of eCR.

Ms. Culpepper stated that the EHRs will automatically send potentially reportable cases to the intermediary tool, triggered by International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD)-10 codes. The reportability of the encounter will then be determined by the intermediary tool, which automatically sends reportable disease information to Florida Health. Ms. Culpepper noted that DOH will need to develop the capability of ingesting the data directly into their system.



Ms. Culpepper reported that Florida Health collaborated with the Agency to develop and submit a request for funding to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the implementation of eCR in Florida. This is a two-year project, running from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2021. The year-one funding request is due on September 30, 2019. Once the funding is approved, the existing health information technology Memo of Understanding (MOU) between the Agency and Florida Health will be updated to include eCR, and the project will begin.

Emergency Preparedness

Ms. Fox reported that an updated emPower file was delivered to Florida Health at the start of hurricane season. This file identifies electricity dependent and “at risk” Medicaid recipients who require life-maintaining electricity-dependent durable medical equipment, cardiac implantable devices, oxygen tanks, dialysis, or home health care services. Florida Health ingests the file into data tables so that Emergency Management and Florida Health can search or filter the Medicaid beneficiary listings by zip code, city, medical need type, medical service, or equipment provider type. This information is used for preparedness and response activities. A file can also be loaded to Everbridge, an emergency notification system used by state agencies and others to send relevant notifications to Medicaid beneficiaries.

Ms. Fox reported that the Emergency Census is available to deploy for the 2019 hurricane season. In a declared emergency, it provides a searchable, statewide census of healthcare encounters for use by emergency response personnel. The service provides Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) sites to authorized persons to submit lists of missing individuals and retrieve results. She noted that the skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) onboarding as a data sources to ENS will provide added value to the Emergency Census, as these facilities often have patient movement during emergencies. Providers, ACOs, and health plans will more easily track patients through the ENS emergency census.

Ms. Fox stated that there are enhancements planned for 2020, including the ability for special needs shelters to register patients to be included in the Emergency Census. This will alert subscribing providers, ACOs and health plans about their patient/members location. Ms. Fox shared some of the successes of the Emergency Census use during Hurricane Michael in 2018.

Next steps

Dr. Saver commented on the quality and usability of the Continuity of Care Documents (CCDs) received by his organization and asked the committee to consider this widespread issue. He suggested doing a survey of the challenges and sharing it with the Office of the National Coordinator. Ms. Marie Ruddy commented that the first focus of health information exchange efforts was to make the exchange happen, and now the focus should shift to how to make the data more usable. Dr. Saver noted challenges in the lack of control over data quality, as well as challenges in communicating with other facilities. He suggested that the HIECC develop a way to facilitate communication between the facilities. The Agency staff will investigate opportunities for the development of a provider IT information directory.

The HIECC will meet again next quarter.



New Action Items

Action Items	Owner
Explore additional metrics on the ePrescribing webpage.	Heidi Fox
Meet to discuss eCase Reporting	Heidi Fox, Kim Streit, and Allison Culpepper
Member send valuable HIT links to include in the HIT Guide on FloridaHealthFinder	Committee
Look into further analytics for the social media engagement report	Chris Wilkey

Mr. Craig Dalton moved to adjourn the meeting with Dr. Saver seconding the motion. There being no objections, the committee adjourned.