Health Information Exchange Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 22, 2013

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Location: Agency for Health Care Administration
                          Bldg.3, Conference Room A
                          2727 Mahan Drive
                          Tallahassee, FL 32308

Members Present: Secretary Liz Dudek, Chair; Bill Bell; Jim Bracher; Craig Dalton; Jarrod Fowler; Nikole Helvey; Tom Herring; Michael Jackson; Kevin Kearns; Peter Kress; Karen Koch; Dennis Saver, M.D.; Reginald Smith, Ed.D.; Kim Tendrich; and Karen van Caulil, Ph.D.

Members Absent: Ronald Burns, D.O.; Jordan Firfer; David Milov, M.D.; and Gay Munyon

Staff Present: Alexander Añe, Dylan Dunlap, Heidi Fox, Emily Frazier, Milly Hardin, Michael Hardy, Aaron Parsons, Carolyn H. Turner, and Dana Watson.

Interested Parties Present: Benjamin Browning, Florida Association of Community Health Centers; Diane Chronis, Florida Medical Quality Assurance, Inc.; Becky Brown, PaperFree Florida; Gigi Cowart, Harris Corporation (Harris); Gloria Deckard, Ph.D., Florida International University (FIU); Bob Harmon, M.D., Cerner Corp.; Davidson James, Florida Hospital/Adventist Health Systems; Cynthia Leonhard, Health First; Julie Meadows-Keefe, Grossman, Furlow & Bayo; Alice Noblin, University of Central Florida; and Linda Renn, STAT Solutions, Inc.

Meeting Materials: Agenda; Minutes; Sustainability Plan Update; Florida Health Information Exchange (HIE) Price List October 1, 2013; Florida HIE Budget 2014-2015; May 2012 Preliminary Florida HIE Budget; Patient Look-Up (PLU) User Group Report; Quarterly Florida HIE Report/Plan and Presentation; Event Notification Service (ENS) Pilot Update; Regional Extension Center (REC) Milestones; Electronic Health Record (EHR) Patient Safety Surveillance Plan; and Program Goals 2014.

Copies of meeting materials are posted at: http://www.fhin.net/content/committeesAndCouncils/index.shtml

Call to Order, Welcome, and Roll Call: Secretary Dudek called the meeting of the Health Information Exchange Coordinating Committee (HIECC) to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Dudek welcomed attendees and gave an update of the Agency for Health Care Administrations' (Agency) activities regarding managed care. The Medicaid Managed Care - Long Term Care roll-out is about halfway completed with Dade-Monroe beginning December 1, 2013. The Managed Medical Assistance Program procurement is almost complete. The procurement includes specialty managed care such as for HIV AIDS and mental illness. Also, additional benefits will be offered including adult dental care. The rollout is tentatively scheduled to begin in May and will be completed by October.

Ms. Heidi Fox reviewed the agenda and conducted the roll call.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Ms. Fox asked the committee to review the minutes from the August 16, 2013, meeting. There were no corrections. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes which were unanimously approved.

Previous Action Items: Ms. Carolyn Turner reviewed action items from the previous meeting.

1. The Agency will revise the pricing policy to clarify that the bed fee excludes specifically skilled nursing beds and that the revenue sharing for PLU access services applies to when health care providers are not sharing data.
2. The Agency will share outreach materials with the Florida Health Care Coalition and other HIECC members to promote the adoption and sustainability of the Florida HIE.

3. The Agency will link its patient safety programs to address health information technology and prepare a draft of its plans to the HIECC at the next meeting.

She noted that items 1 and 2 were complete and the Agency will report on item 3 this meeting. Mr. Craig Dalton asked about members distributing materials. Ms. Turner indicated that members are encouraged to download materials from the Florida HIE for their use. Printed materials are also available from the outreach team.

Sustainability Plan/Pricing Policies Update: Ms. Turner reviewed the sustainability plan, noting that the Florida HIE will be sustained primarily by user fees going forward. She reported that the Agency had received Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval of funding for facilitated onboarding to September 2015.

The current sustainability budget for FY 2014-2015 is $2.86 million which includes PLU and ENS maintenance not included in the preliminary budget developed in 2012. Ms. Turner reviewed the types of fees that will support the Florida HIE. These include fees for participating in PLU, fees to health plans for Direct Secure Messaging (DSM), fees to hospitals connecting to DSM from their EHR, and fees to health plans for ENS.

Ms. Turner said the sustainability plan assumes that 20 nodes would be on-boarded by January 1, 2015, and that 15 health plans would participate in ENS by July 1, 2014. Ms. Turner briefly reviewed the specific prices changes since the August meeting and the start-up discounts available until July 1, 2014. She referred members to the Florida HIE October 1, 2013 price list for detailed information.

Mr. Peter Kress asked if nursing homes are restricted to exchange with hospitals in DSM. Ms. Turner indicated they would not be restricted and may use DSM for exchanges with any other DSM participants. Nursing homes can register in DSM as they elect.

Mr. James Bracher asked for more specificity regarding the budget. Ms. Turner indicated that more information about the basis of the budget estimates and more detailed components would be provided at the next meeting.

Dr. Dennis Saver asked about the role of the HIECC in the governance of Florida HIE over the next three years. Ms. Turner indicated that the HIECC will continue to advise the Agency in its governance of the Florida HIE and management of the Florida HIE vendor contract.

PLU User Group Report: Mr. Davidson James presented an update on the PLU User Group. He reported that the PLU User Group had reviewed the sustainability plan including pricing and the status of PLU onboarding. The PLU User Group discussed the meaningful use requirements for transitions of care and use of the PLU access service. An update of the Florida HIE architecture, incorporating all services, was also reviewed.

The PLU User Group discussed partial on-boarding in which data is made available while the node continues working on its user interface. It was agreed that this may be beneficial in having more data available for exchange earlier. In addition, automated queries were discussed. The PLU User Group reviewed proposed changes to the subscription agreements planned for 2014.

Mr. James asked if there were any questions about the PLU User Group and there were none.

Quarterly HIE Plan & Report: Ms. Gigi Cowart, Harris Project Manager, presented the quarterly HIE report through October 31, 2013, and planning through the project quarter November – January 2014.

Highlights of the quarter included completion of the ENS technical work, DSM use increasing to over 16,800 transactions during October 2013, and completion of the work on the positive or negative message delivery notification. Broward Health also completed onboarding and moved into production and Bethesda Health began onboarding.

Broward Health joins Atlantic Coast HIE, Florida Hospital/Adventist Health Systems, Strategic Health Intelligence (SHI) and UF & Shands in production. The Harris team worked with other organizations in various stages of the on-boarding process. These include Bethesda Health, Community Health Center Alliance (CHCA), Department of Health (DOH), Florida Accountable Care Services, Health Management Associates, Inc. (HMA), Martin Health System, Naples Community Hospital, and Senior Home Care.

Ms. Cowart reported that PLU transactions began in October. She reported 5,153 successful patient discovery queries and 2,730 documents retrieved. She explained that the 419 unsuccessful queries were due to patient identifiers not matching during the patient discovery process.

Florida HIE project plans for the next quarter include a performance assessment of DSM and automation of administrative functions. PLU on-boarding activities will continue with additional work on the gateway of gateways, enabling participation in the eHealth Exchange.

Dr. Saver asked about the information available to users regarding unsuccessful queries, so users can understand the nature of the problem, such as whether there is a system error or some other problem. Ms. Turner indicated that there is a technical work group as part of the PLU User Group addressing matching issues. Ms. Fox indicated the Agency would follow-up with Harris.

Mr. Michael Jackson asked about the longer onboarding status of Big Bend Regional Healthcare Information Organization. Ms. Turner said that they have not moved forward for some time but have not indicated that they will not complete onboarding.

ENS Pilot Update: Mr. Aaron Parsons presented a progress report on the ENS pilot for issuing admission and discharge alerts to participating health plans. Broward Health and WellCare of Florida are participating in the ENS pilot. Mr. Parsons noted that the value to health plans lies in receiving the information in a timelier fashion. The alerts include patient demographics, type of encounter, facility, and reason for admission.

Mr. Parsons reported that the service went live November 7, 2013. He explained how the service operates and that self-pay patients are filtered. WellCare has subscribed over 53,000 of their members residing in Broward and Dade counties. Since the service went live, 50 alerts have been issued to WellCare and copied to Broward Health.

Mr. Parsons indicated that other health plans in Broward may participate now that the service is launched. The service will be marketed as the hospitals' preferred mechanism for providing admission and discharge data. The service will also be expanded as hospitals are added.

REC Reports: Ms. Fox noted that individual RECs milestones are included in Tab G. She asked if representatives of the RECs had any additional comments to make or if the HIECC members had any questions. There were no questions or comments.

EHR Patient Safety Surveillance: Ms. Fox noted that the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) *Health IT Patient Safety Action and Surveillance Plan* released July 2, 2013, was presented at the August meeting of the HIECC. The Agency took as an action item the development of a plan for patient safety.

Ms. Fox briefly reviewed the Agency's plan. As part of the plan, the Agency will develop a guide for physicians that have patient safety concerns regarding their EHR system. The guide will be presented at the next HIECC meeting. The Agency will also outreach to patient safety organizations to encourage their support of health information technology (health IT) patient safety and will coordinate with the ONC to distribute health IT tools and best practices.

Ms. Fox asked for questions or comments. Ms. Karen Koch and Dr. Saver indicated an interest in assisting with the project. Ms. Fox noted that the Agency also hopes to work with the EHR association on the development of the guide.

Project Evaluation Update: Gloria Deckard, Ph.D., gave the update on the project evaluation. She indicated that the survey of HIECC members is being analyzed, although responses are still being accepted. The PLU user survey is also being analyzed. Results of both surveys will be presented at the next HIECC meeting.

DSM awareness surveys are being conducted with long term care, home health, and behavioral health providers. The DSM user survey and the survey of consumer perceptions of HIE will be issued in January 2014.

Program Goals 2014: Ms. Turner presented the proposed EHR adoption and HIE goals for 2014 which will be reviewed by the State Consumer Health Information and Policy Advisory Council (Advisory Council) in December.

Sustainability goals are to have 20 PLU organizations in production and 20 health plans participating in ENS by the end of 2014. The Agency has also set a goal of adding two ENS sites during 2014 and increasing PLU transactions monthly. The Agency will work to increase hospital participation through Health Information Service provider (HISP) connections, enabling transition of care interactions with DSM registrants. The Agency would like to increase the participation of nursing homes in DSM to enable transitions of care coordination with hospitals.

The target for electronic prescribing (e-prescribing) is to reach a 60% rate of e-prescribing (excluding controlled substances). A 10% increase in eligible professionals achieving meaningful use is the EHR goal for 2014.

Mr. Reginald Smith and Mr. Kress indicated support for the goals. Dr. Saver suggested that physician adoption of DSM be addressed. Ms. Fox indicated that since physicians cannot use DSM to send messages for meaningful use, the Agency is focusing on entities that might get value more directly from DSM. Ms. Turner noted that the Florida HIE is connected to Surescripts, which is an option for physicians depending on their EHR vendor.

Agency Updates: Ms. Turner gave a brief update on the Agency's HIE activities.

The Cooperative Agreement ended September 30, 2013, and the Agency is engaged in financial close-out processes through December 2013. The FIU contract is planned for renewal through June 2015 on a no-cost basis.

Agency HIE staff attended the SHI summit November 6-7. The Agency joined the National Association for Trusted Exchange (NATE) September 6, 2013. NATE includes state leadership in HIE. The Agency also attends Healtheway informational calls and DirectTrust monthly meetings.

The Agency is focusing on HISP connections with hospitals and is engaged with several hospitals that have expressed an interest. The Agency is outreaching to health plans for ENS adoption by contacting health plans individually and conducting informational webinars. The Agency is also working on additional PLU outreach. CMS funding of facilitated onboarding of Medicaid-eligible hospitals and clinics will enable growth in the number of participating organizations in the PLU service.

Ms. Turner reported the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program statistics through November 15, 2013. There have been **305** payments totaling **$239,600,549** to hospitals (**$89,051,952** to **136** hospitals for meaningful use (MU), **167** unique hospitals paid), and **6991** payments totaling **$129,797,869** have been made to eligible professionals (**$11,973,674** to **1416** eligible professionals (EPs) for MU, **5575** unique EPs paid).

There was a large increase in DSM transactions in October, with 16,838 DSM transactions up from 4,922 transactions in July. The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) grant-funded subcontract with South Florida REC resulted in the registrants of 313 pediatricians and pediatrics ancillary providers through the end of October 2013.

Ms. Turner reported that e-prescribing for Q3 2013 (July and August) is at 50 percent up from 48 percent in 2012.

Ms. Turner announced that the next HIECC meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2014. The Advisory Council will meet as a conference call on December 17, 2013. A meeting of the HIE Legal Work Group is planned for December 13, 2013, to start the public review process for the 2014 edition of the Florida HIE subscription agreements.

Meeting Summary, Next Steps, and Adjourn: Ms. Fox reviewed the action items from the meeting:

1. The Agency will provide more detail on the large cost categories of the sustainability budget.
2. Harris will provide an explanation of patient matching and screen shots illustrating successful and unsuccessful queries.
3. The Agency will work with Dr. Saver to coordinate with the ONC in developing a patient safety guide for health care providers.

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned at 11:15 a.m.