



Illinois Health Information Exchange News

Illinois Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT)

Issue #5

March 2012

ILLINOIS WINS FEDERAL GRANT For Behavioral Health Integration Project (BHIP)

Illinois has received \$600,000 in funding to support the Behavioral Health Integration Project (BHIP), whose goal is to promote the integration of behavioral health records into the Illinois Health Information Exchange (ILHIE). Grant activities will help to support the infrastructure for licensed substance abuse and mental health practitioners to better coordinate patient care with the consumers' primary care providers through secure electronic health information exchange. Data exchange holds promise in improving the overall health of behavioral health consumers.

BHIP will serve as a demonstration project to help establish national best practices in electronic health exchange in the area of behavioral health. "This grant confirms Illinois' commitment to better integrated health care" said Dia Cirillo, Project Director Behavioral Health at the Office of Health Information Technology.

Cirillo continues "Illinois is unique among the states in that it has set a higher confidentiality threshold for behavioral health than most other states. This grant challenges Illinois to balance consumer confidentiality with the strong need for increased coordination of care with other medical services; ultimately to improve the quality of care for behavioral health consumers."

BHIP will work to develop the legal and operational framework necessary to continue to protect confidentiality while helping to facilitate electronic data exchange to improve care. The project will engage the behavioral health provider community and convene legal experts, associations and consumers to build this framework to be tested in several select sites throughout the state later in the year.

For more information about the Behavioral Health Integration Project, please visit <http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/HIE/Pages/BHIP.aspx>

E-Health Exchange- Better Care Through Technology



Illinois Health Information Exchange News

Illinois Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT)

Issue #5

March 2012

REGIONAL EXTENSION CENTERS Helping Providers use ILHIE Direct

As of publication, nearly 250 licensed Illinois health care providers have signed on to use the ILHIE Direct Secure Messaging Solution to share confidential health information without the risk of breach or exposure. Secure messaging protects sensitive health data sent between providers in compliance with HIPAA and allows providers to meet Stage 1 Meaningful Use. It's also simple, intuitive and is much like sending an email.

ILHIE is pleased to announce that the two Illinois Health IT Regional Extension Centers (RECs), ILHITREC (for providers Statewide) and CHITREC (for providers in Chicago), are joining ILHIE to educate providers about ILHIE Direct, and if needed assist providers in registering for the service. They will also assist providers in reaching out to their most vital communications partners to encourage them to sign up for an ILHIE Direct address and begin exchanging data securely.

Most importantly, the RECs will help demonstrate how easily ILHIE Direct can be used in every day practice to securely exchange clinical information.

For more information about or to register for ILHIE Direct, visit

<http://ilhiedirect.net>

Regional Extension Centers

(For Providers Statewide) www.ilhitrec.org/ilhitrec/

(For Providers in Chicago) www.chitrec.org/

Join us in creating our own personal dynamic exchange of information, thoughts, questions and dialog about health IT throughout Illinois on the OHIT Facebook page.

Visit www.facebook.com/ILOHIT

E-Health Exchange- Better Care Through Technology



Illinois Health Information Exchange News

Illinois Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT)

Issue #5

March 2012

NEW HEALTH IT INITIATIVE Benefits Illinois Patients and Providers

In an effort to improve coordination of care, Walgreens' nearly 8,000 pharmacies are using Surescripts' Clinical Interoperability services to electronically deliver patient immunization data directly to primary care providers. All ILHIE Direct users are able to receive Walgreens immunization updates electronically for their patients.

Walgreens pharmacists had previously made patient immunization records available to physicians by fax or traditional mail. Providing this important information electronically, improves patient care by making it easier for providers to compile more complete medical histories for their patients. Few patients remember which immunizations they've had and when. Getting the information electronically also helps physicians have a more thorough health care conversation with their patients.

On March 12, 2012 ILHIE Direct subscriber, Dr. Irene Silva of Chicago received the very first immunization notice from Walgreens via the Surescripts network. At learning the news, an excited Dr. Silva stated "thank you for the opportunity to participate in this wonderful, secure program (ILHIE Direct). With the ability to exchange health information electronically, the quality of medical care improves on a daily basis. It's very exciting to be a part of medicine these days."

This is an ideal example of the benefits of health IT and electronic health exchange in action.

For more information about the IL Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) and the Illinois Health Information Exchange (ILHIE)

visit www.hie.illinois.gov

E-Health Exchange- Better Care Through Technology