

We, Baystate Health, share the principle that to achieve an open, connected care for our communities, we all have the responsibility to take action. To further these goals, we commit to the following principles to advance interoperability among health information systems enabling free movement of data, which are foundational to the success of delivery system reform.

1. **Consumer access:** To help consumers easily and securely access their electronic health information, direct it to any desired location, learn how their information can be shared and used, and be assured that this information will be effectively and safely used to benefit their health and that of their community.
2. **No Blocking/Transparency:** To help providers share individuals' health information for care with other providers and their patients whenever permitted by law, and not block electronic health information (defined as knowingly and unreasonably interfering with information sharing). This includes cost prohibitive charges for either implementing or operating interfaces.
3. **Standards:** Implement federally recognized, national interoperability standards, policies, guidance, and practices for electronic health information, and adopt best practices including those related to privacy and security.

To implement these commitments we continue to build the regional health information exchange in western Massachusetts called the Pioneer Valley Information Exchange (PVIX ; [www.pvix.org](http://www.pvix.org)) which employs IHE standards, ensure terminology harmonization, CCDA production, and open APIs for sharing data and developing applications. Current projects include HIE connectivity among various vendor EHRs, Image Exchange, clinical alerts across the region, Next Gen ACO management, and pop health apps and analytics. We will continue to build, incubate, and test new solutions at TechSpring ([www.techspringhealth.org](http://www.techspringhealth.org)), Baystate Health's technology innovation center, that rely on FHIR and open API's that are made available by our vendor partners. These include mobile applications that "sit" on our core EHR in order to optimize workflows, develop new features independent of vendors, enable physicians to collaborate and connect using new apps, enable patients to see their healthcare data as well as submit data, and provide patients alternative methods to connect with their doctors through virtual means.

Baystate Health is committed to delivering the highest quality of care to its patients and having access to data more easily from our EHRs as well as having APIs that enable the development of new tech or apps on these incumbent systems is a significant factor in our ability to be successful as a Next Generation ACO and ultimately achieving our mission for our patients.