



The Office of the National Coordinator for  
Health Information Technology



# HIE Governance Updates

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HIE governance refers to the establishment and oversight of a common set of behaviors, policies, and standards that enable trusted electronic health information exchange among a set of participants.

Governance is focused on health information exchange at a national level, to address challenges to exchange between different exchange organizations and across state boundaries.

- National HIE Forum Launch
- Exemplar HIE Governance Program (cooperative agreements) Awards

- National eHealth Collaborative & ONC established a forum for HIE governing entities
  - Whose decisions establish policies and practices for a given community of exchange partners of national, regional, full state and/or cross state scope
  - Which have as a main focus the governance of health information exchange between unaffiliated healthcare organizations and across multiple vendor products
  - Which have participants that are using policies, interoperability requirements and business practice requirements implemented by the applicant for the exchange of health information

# Forum Goals

- Create a collaborative environment for HIE governing leaders
- Bring HIE governing leaders to a common understanding of governance components
- Identify & prioritize high-impact issues on health information exchange governance to address that will support the movement of information across exchange organizations and geographic boundaries
- Identify and share emerging best practice approaches to common governance challenges

# Forum Kick-Off Meeting

- Teleconference on April 12
- Initial interests
  - The most critical TRUST areas for the Forum to focus on are:
    - 52% Handling patient consent
    - 52 Process to accurately associate patients with their data
    - 48 Trust agreements
    - 28 Data use policies-treatment, secondary use & de-identified
    - 24 Privacy & security policies
  - The most critical BUSINESS areas for the Forum to focus on are:
    - 64 Open exchange services (e.g. directories)
    - 41 Approaches to patient/consumer engagement
    - 41 Transparency of practices
    - 36 Fees and charges
    - 18 Openness and transparency of capacity and coverage

# Next Steps

- Initiate work to develop a landscape of current and emerging governance practices/models, identifying common approaches, common challenges and candidate best practices to be tackled jointly.
- Next meeting date: *May 3 at 11:00AM EST*



# Cooperative Agreement

- On December 20, 2012 ONC released the Exemplar HIE Governance Program Cooperative Agreements Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).
- The FOA will fund cooperative agreements with selected existing governance organizations to collaborate with ONC to achieve HIE governance goals. Work includes:
  - 1) The development of implementation policies, interoperability requirements and business practice requirements that will facilitate directed “push” and/or query-based exchange and address operational challenges that are slowing adoption and use of either model of exchange.
  - 2) The identification of potential opportunities to incorporate these solutions in national policy through certification of electronic health records, nationally adopted standards, incorporation into federal policy or additional governance activities.

# Exemplar HIE Governance Program

- ONC recently made awards and will work closely the awardees and their partners to:
  - develop and adopt policies, interoperability requirements and business practices that align with national priorities
  - overcome interoperability challenges
  - reduce implementation costs and
  - assure the privacy and security of health

Recipient	Award
DirectTrust.org, Inc.	\$280,205
New York eHealth Collaborative, Inc.	\$200,000

# Exemplar HIE Governance Program

- As part of the awards, these organizations will:
  - [DirectTrust](#) will continue and expand their work to establish security and trust rules of the road for Directed exchange and advance adoption of these rules through their trusted agent accreditation program. DirectTrust's critical work will facilitate and enable vendor to vendor and provider to provider exchange for Meaningful Use Stage 2.
  - The [EHR | HIE Interoperability Workgroup](#) will address some of the stickiest implementation challenges facing the exchange of health information including patient matching, querying provider directories and applying good governance principles for both query-based and directed exchange.

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