New Mexico Health Information Technology
Strategic and Operational Plan Profile

Overview
The New Mexico health information exchange (HIE) entity, the New Mexico Health Information Collaborative (NMHIC), is comprised of the HIE network and its supporting stakeholder collaborative. NMHIC is staffed and operated by the non-profit LCF Research organization. In May 2009, New Mexico’s Governor selected NMHIC to lead the planning and coordination of a statewide HIE network. Also in 2009, the New Mexico Electronic Medical Record Act was passed, which clarified state laws applying to the privacy and security of patient information either stored in EMRs or communicated across HIE networks. In December 2009, the Department of Health (DOH) selected NMHIC as the sole agent for e-reporting to the state agency.

The New Mexico HIE strategy builds upon its existing HIE network infrastructure. As of the end of 2010, NMHIC had operating interfaces to access patient information from 14 hospitals, two major medical groups, and four laboratories. In its Master Person Index (MPI), NMHIC had over one million unique patient identities out of a total state population of two million. NMHIC can send laboratory results with notifiable conditions from four laboratories to the DOH and situational surveillance information from three emergency departments (EDs).

In 2011, NMHIC participated in a pilot test to send secure summary patient information in a standards-compliant CCD format over the Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN) to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for disability determination. The NMHIC is in production exchanging information over the NwHIN and has completed its first pilot test of clinician access to patient information on the NMHIC portal. NMHIC expects to directly support or facilitate the meaningful use requirements for: 1) receiving structured lab results into provider EHR systems; 2) sharing summary patient information among non-affiliated health care organizations; and 3) e-prescribing. Later in 2011, NMHIC plans to leverage its capability to exchange information over the NwHIN to provide care coordination within New Mexico. This effort will focus on private sector health care providers and health care providers with the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Veterans Administration (VA).

Model and Services
NMHIC uses a hybrid architecture that uniquely identifies patients with a centralized MPI, locates patient information at provider locations, and then accesses the patient information from edge servers at various health care facilities. This patient information is then gathered and displayed on a centralized web portal or sent to the requesting provider’s EHR system. NMHIC also maintains a central repository of notifiable conditions derived from lab results and Emergency Rooms (ERs) for reporting to the New Mexico DOH. This architecture requires both clinician user authentication and patient consent verification before the user can access patient information on the network. Data security provisions include: comprehensive data security policies, encryption of data at rest and in motion, and audit logs of all transactions. NMHIC complies with all data security and interoperability standards required to exchange patient information over the NwHIN.
Highlights

- **Reporting to Public Health:** In June 2010, NMHIC went into production filtering laboratory results for notifiable conditions, translating them into LOINC codes, storing them in a centralized e-reporting repository, and sending reports to the New Mexico DOH. This initiative also includes the receipt of patient information from emergency departments (situational surveillance), which NMHIC also routes to the DOH. With these two initiatives, the New Mexico DOH became NMHIC’s first paying customer. As of December 2010, NMHIC is providing notifiable conditions from four laboratories and three emergency departments. Plans are underway for NMHIC to provide immunization data to the New Mexico State Immunization Information System (NMSIIS) and discharge summaries to the State Health Policy Commission.

- **Exchanging Patient Information over the NwHIN:** In June 2010, NMHIC began a pilot test to send secure summary patient information in standards-compliant CCD format over the NwHIN to the SSA for disability determination. As of December 2010, NMHIC has successfully met the early milestones of this pilot test and was in production exchanging information over the NwHIN in 2011. NMHIC plans to leverage its capability to exchange information over the NwHIN to provide care coordination for individual patients within New Mexico, especially between private sector health care providers and public sector health care providers in the IHS and the VA.

- **Expansion of the NMHIC HIE Network:** As of December 2010, NMHIC has operating interfaces for accessing patient information from 14 hospitals, two major medical groups, and four laboratories. It has over one million unique patient identities in its MPI out of a total state population of two million.

- **Legal Agreements with Health Care Providers and Patients:** As of December 2010, seven health care facilities have signed the production-level NMHIC Network Subscription Agreement, and consensus for a single New Mexico Patient Consent Policy and Form has been achieved. This form will allow authorized health care providers to access patient information over the NMHIC HIE.

- **Enhanced Coordination with Stakeholders:** During 2010, NMHIC increased its planning and coordination with:
  - The New Mexico HIT Regional Extension Center (NMHITREC) to help prepare providers to demonstrate meaningful use of Health IT.
  - The DOH to provide electronic reporting of lab results, emergency department (ED) data, and immunizations. NMHIC is also working with the DOH to strengthen the role of public health on the LCF Research Board of Directors.
  - The New Mexico Health Services Department–Medical Assistance Division (HSD-MAD) to coordinate health IT plans within the State Medicaid HIT Plan (SMHP) and to enhance the participation of Medicaid on the LCF Research Board of Directors.
  - Community stakeholders by facilitating their participation in New Mexico State HIE Strategic and Operational Plan updates, resulting in the approval of Version 2 of the HIE Plan in April and Version 3 of the HIE Plan in December 2010.
## Meaningful Use

### Landscape

**E-Prescribing**

As of June 30, 2010, Surescripts reported the following:

- Activated pharmacies: 262 out of 292 - 90%
- Active e-prescribers: 1082 providers including physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants – 21.6%
- Physician e-prescribers: 880 providers out of 2,854 active licensed physicians in New Mexico – 30.8%
- Eligible prescriptions routed electronically: 4% (2009)

### Strategy

New Mexico has several strategies in place to address e-prescribing gaps. The first is the promotion of e-prescribing as part of New Mexico’s REC activities around meaningful use. Since certified EHRs include e-prescribing capabilities, the NMHITREC will begin education and training programs on the use of e-prescribing in 2011.

The second strategy is to continue the activities of the New Mexico Prescription Improvement Coalition (NMPIC), which has been promoting physician adoption of e-prescribing in New Mexico for the past several years. NMPIC is staffed and operated by the New Mexico Medical Review Association (NMMRA), which is the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for New Mexico.

The third strategy is led by Molina Healthcare, which is a managed care organization (MCO) that supports Medicare and Medicaid patients. Molina has just initiated a patient-centered medical home (PCMH) initiative, which includes financial incentives for health care providers that implement and use e-prescribing. Molina’s PCMH initiative includes a $10,000 e-prescribing incentive for each health care provider ($5,000 will be paid at initiation and $5,000 will be paid with demonstrated implementation). In addition, Molina will provide up to $5,000 in consulting services with selected consultants to assist in the design, development, and implementation of an e-prescribing system.
New Mexico has a unique laboratory environment, as it contains two large reference labs (TriCore and SED labs) owned by New Mexico health care organizations. Combined, these labs account for approximately 65 percent of the state’s lab business. Labcorp and Quest Diagnostics also have a presence in the state, but, combined, have less than 30 percent of the market share.

Other lab facts include:
- 87 CLIA registered labs in New Mexico
- 90% of labs are able to produce and deliver structured lab results
- State HIE inbound lab interfaces developed and in production for TriCore Reference Laboratories, SED Medical Laboratories, Holy Cross Hospital laboratory, State HIE integration for New Mexico Scientific Lab Division (SLD), LabCorp, and CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center laboratory
- Electronic lab reporting from NMHIC to NM DOH in production
- Lab results made available to clinician users in NMHIC portal

New Mexico is working to increase electronic laboratory results delivery for Stage 1 Meaningful Use through State HIE expansion and collaboration with NM HITREC and Medicaid. This will be accomplished by focusing on deployment to smaller clinics and hospitals. Each program/leader has been given responsibilities to push this plan forward:

- Medicaid will help to promote participation with the State HIE and HITREC programs
- State HIT Coordinator will help to support activities to build electronic capabilities and SLD
- NM HITREC will collaborate and coordinate REC participants with the HIE to facilitate lab results delivery into their EHR systems
- NMHIC has updated the HIE plan for 2011 and beyond
Currently, the only patient care summary exchange in New Mexico is done through non-electronic means or private physician portals within the larger health care organizations.

In June 2010, NMHIC began the SSA Disability Determination pilot test, which included sending summary patient records over the NwHIN to SSA for disability application processing. These summary patient records are standards compliant Continuity of Care Documents (CCD).

NMHIC is planning to be in production and exchanging summary patient records in CCD format for the SSA contract over the NwHIN in 2011.

NMHIC is able to provide access to summary patient information in CCD format over the NMHIC web portal from 14 hospitals, two major medical groups, and four clinical laboratories. NMHIC users will have access to patient information for over one million patients.

NMHIC is anticipated to have the capacity to provide summary patient record information in CCD format over the NMHIC web portal for over one million patients.

NMHIC’s strategy to share summary patient information among non-affiliated healthcare organizations includes:

- The NMHIC conducted a comprehensive pilot test of clinician user access to summary patient information in CCD format via the NMHIC web portal. The pilot site will be the New Mexico Cancer Center. Other health care providers have already expressed interest in participating in pilot testing as soon as the pilot with NMCC is completed.

- The capability to share summary patient records among non-affiliated healthcare providers in CCD format will be via the NMHIC web portal. NM plans to expand this capability to permit the sending of summary patient information to another provider’s EHR system during 2012.

- New Mexico is leveraging the NM HITREC and Medicaid effort to incorporate this capability into newly deployed EHRs across the state.
## HIE Inventory

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*Information for this profile was obtained from the approved Operational and Strategic Plan submitted to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology as a condition of the Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement. The complete plan can be downloaded at: [http://statehieresources.org/](http://statehieresources.org/)*