The Illinois Health Network

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IHN Vision

Improve healthcare quality and increase efficiency through the use of technology

What does this mean?

How is the IHN doing this today?

Enabling the secure exchange of protected health and business information

What is the IHN?

- Illinois Hospital Association

- Two oversight committees
  - IHN Steering Committee
  - Applications Advisory Group

- Initial funding via the State of Illinois

What is the IHN?

- Working on not for profit status

- Helping exchange secure information from a variety of health care providers throughout IL and beyond

The Illinois Health Network

- Today
  - Examples of IHN members exchanging information securely
  - Facilitate the use by IHN Business Partners
- Future vision
  - Looking into the continuing work done by HIMSS and the Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (http://www.ihe.net)

IHN Members and IHN Business Partners

■ **IHN Members**

– Hospitals, physician offices, long-term care, federally qualified health centers, labs, etc.

■ **IHN Business Partners**

– Vendors or other groups wanting to promote their services or offerings across the IHN membership. The IHN does not endorse BPs.

How is the IHN Being Used?
Examples of IHN Uses

KSB Hospital, Dixon Illinois

– Physician access to internal applications (e.g., electronic signature)

– Shared patient information between emergency department, local mental health and public health agencies

How is the IHN Being Used?
Examples of IHN Uses

After-hours Hospital Pharmacy Coverage

– Six critical access hospitals will test the use of IHN to send scanned images of drug orders to an on-call pharmacist at a distant location who will be notified upon receipt of a document, will review the order and, upon approval, will send a return message to the originating hospital staff. The return message will automatically unlock the dispensing cabinet at the remote hospital.

– All transactions will provide the necessary documentation for quality assurance purposes, HIPAA and JCAHO compliance.

How is the IHN Being Used?
Examples of IHN Uses

KCHAIN

– Received federal funding to improve access to both primary and specialty health care services for underserved populations throughout the county.

– In addition to the health department staff, other participants include representatives from the five hospitals in the county, the mental health agency, several federally qualified health centers, other not-for-profit clinics, and medical practices.

– The group has discussed the categories of data to be shared as well as a master patient index. They are evaluating use of the IHN to support the data exchange that hopefully will begin soon.

How is the IHN Being Used?

Examples of IHN Uses

IDPH Laboratory Results Reporting

– IDPH plans to use the IHN gateway to streamline the collection of laboratory results data from participating hospitals in the state.

How is the IHN Being Used?
Examples of IHN Uses

Faculty and staff at the U of I Rockford College of Medicine and its National Center for Rural Health Professions are using the IHN gateway to support their internal data sharing and communication needs.

Information shared between faculty, students, and local preceptors frequently includes protected health information and student evaluations, both requiring the convenient and secure exchange provided by the gateway.

Roles of the Illinois Health Network

1. Secure IHN gateway

2. Access to commercial applications and other health care offerings

3. Facilitates communication between health care and social service providers

4. Secure platform for statewide health information exchange

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