

**NIHCM** FOUNDATION

> Regional Health Information Organizations and other Health Information Exchanges: The Value

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# NIHCM Health IT Leadership Dialogues

- AHRQ funded
- 3rd in series
  - adoption
  - workflow
  - value proposition
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## **Purpose of the Dialogue**

- Engage diverse stakeholders in a frank and open discussion about the value proposition for participating in RHIOs and in other HIEs
  - Drama and vivacity
  - □ Remain true to your experience
  - Result: accuracy in opposition of opinions

# **Working Definition of RHIO/HIE**

- The minimal operational conditions for a RHIO or HIE are met when health-related information is exchanged electronically between at least two entities that would otherwise...
  - ...depend on the physical storage and exchange of health-related information
  - ...not be engaged in the sharing of health-related information

# **Objectives**

- Further understand and develop insights into the value proposition of RHIOs and other HIEs from the perspective of key stakeholders
- Synthesize information and disseminate findings to a wider audience
- Use the results to inform and guide a subsequent, in-depth research study

## **Participants**

- Health plans (BCBS, Aetna, Cigna)
- Employers (GM, IBM)
- Providers (HCA)
- RHIOs/HIEs (HealthBridge, Taconic, IHIE, MASSeHC, INHS, UHIN)
- Public sector (AHRQ, ONC, CMS)
- Others (NY Dept of Health, eHi, BTE, Markle)

- 1. How does the electronic exchange of health information **create value** for stakeholders in RHIOs/HIE?
- 2. What are the critical factors that lead to the **formation and sustainability** of RHIOs/HIEs?
- 3. How do you see RHIOs/HIEs **developing** over the next several years?

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# **VALUE CREATION**

#### • What type of value is created?

- Value may be understood as return on investment (ROI), quality improvement and error reduction, improved access to care, enhanced research capability, or other benefits
- What kind of information is exchanged?
  - Demographic, administrative, claims, results, medication histories, clinical summaries, images, or "deep clinical" data
- Who benefits from the exchange?
  - Consumers, employers, health plans, providers and hospitals, clinicians, public health departments, others

# **VALUE CREATION**

- Indiana \$2 million in savings through use of electronic clinical messaging by providers
- Shared Health reducing waste and duplication for TennCare
- HealthBridge demonstrated ROI through results delivery
- Utah short term value in administrative savings to members

# Other types of value creation

#### Trust

Quality improvement

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## FORMATION

- When you have seen one RHIO you seen one RHIO?
- Drivers:
  - Leadership
  - Stakeholder power
  - Contextual conditions (market factors, culture)
- Other considerations:
  - Collaboration, competition, trust
  - Governance model
  - History

# SUSTAINABILITY

#### ROI and sustainable business model

- How important?
- How achieved?
- Different perspectives

#### **FORMATION & SUSTAINABILITY**

- Establishing clinical messaging as the foundation for exchange and having a critical mass of participation in a market (HealthBridge)
- Local communities develop a common vision among previously competing stakeholders (Shelby County)
- Develop a joint, new business model so that no partner will gain at another's expense (Arkansas)
- □ All payors need to be involved

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# **DEVELOPMENT & EVOLUTION**

# Size/number of collaborator □ small → medium → large

- Type of information exchanged
  - □ demographic → claims → results delivery → deep clinical
- Value
  - □ ROI → quality improvement/error reduction → access expansion

## **DEVELOMENT & EVOLUTION**

- States are providing rules of engagement in places where multiple RHIOs exist. States may have to pick up pieces in areas of state where no activity is initiated
- NY providing grants to invest in health IT, efforts currently underway to exchange information will compete with brand-new efforts wanting to get off the ground
- RHIOs exchaning administrative data are trying to prove the ROI for their members to invest in clinical exchange some have tried clinical exchange (Arkansas) but scaled back due to interoperability costs
- Building on foundation of clinical messaging to begin broader information exchange

#### **TAKE AWAYS**

#### Thousand flowers bloom

- Bottom up vs. top down
- □ What is the federal role?
- Is it all about standards and interoperability
- Scope and scale
- Commonalities?