

Regional Health Care Initiatives Overcoming Barriers to Success & Recommendations

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HealthCare
Solutions

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What Is A RHIO?

- Non-governmental organization
 - Governance
 - Legal issuesTo facilitate exchange of health information

“Specifics are unavailable since RHIOs are still being developed. RHIOs will support deployment of applications that we hope will be “plug and play” and be integrated and implemented within the NHIN”

Lori Evans
Sr. Advisor to Dr. Brailer



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Agenda

- Lessons From The Past
- What's New?
- What's Still In Flux?
- Recommendations to Proceed

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Lessons From The Past



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Lesson #1

- Lack of on-going funding

Lesson #2

- Patient Control of Personal Medical Records

Lesson #3

- Physician Participation

Lesson #4

- Culture
- “Culture eats systems for lunch every day of the week!”

Lesson #5

- Medical Record Inclusiveness
 - Standards
 - Patient Identification

Lesson #6

- Access to Medical Information Outside the Local Region

Lesson #7

- Implementation Speed

What's New?

Expanded Interest

- Government
- Employers
- Insurers

Funding Sources

New Technology

Evolving Standards

NHIN

NHIN Goal

- Improve patient safety and the quality and efficiency of care through sharing of health information

What is NHIN?

- A collection of technologies
- Business frameworks
- Financing arrangements
- Legal contracting
- Policy requirements
- Organizational issues

Healthcare Informatics
February, 2005

21st Century Health Information Act P. Kennedy & T. Murphy

- \$50 million in grants in FY 2006
 - Demonstrate RHIOs
 - Adjustment to Medicare payments for participating providers
 - Exemption from certain federal laws
 - Federal certification of purchased equipment

What's still in Flux?

- Why Do It?
- Definition of EHR
- Approach
- On-going Funding
- Patient Identification
- HIPAA Compliance

Why Do It?

- Why should a hospital take the lead?
 - Competitive Advantage
 - Other Priorities
 - Funding
- Why Should Physicians Participate?
 - Resources to comply
 - Benefit

You'll Know It When You See It.

- “The Electronic Health Record (EHR) is heading forward and progress toward its adoption will continue...but accompanying the advancement is continuing confusion about exactly what the term means”

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What Exactly Are We Getting Excited About?

“EHR is falling prey to the hype cycle”

- Wes Rischel, Gartner

EHR is still climbing the hype cycle, they're not even at the top. They are going to go screaming down the other side and land”

- Dave Garets HIMSS Analytics



What is an EHR (vs. EMR)?

- Medical vocabulary
- Clinical decision support
- Work flow enhancement
- Nursing documentation
- Patient access and input
- Patient portal
- Portable “key chain” record



EHR Standards Are Still In Their Infancy

- openEHR – CEN EN 13606 –European Union
- Clinical Document Architecture – CDA-HL7 – USA
- Continuity of Care Record (CCR) ASTM - USA

Two Models for Approach

- Distributed
 - Locator System
 - Requires Transformation
- Centralized
 - Single Repository
 - Standard formats

HIPAA Compliance

- Additional Safeguards
 - Role Based Authorization
 - Audit Trail

Patient Identification Issues (EMPI)

- Who maintains it?
- Funding?
- Legal Responsibilities?
- Parent Sibling relationships?

Recommendations



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Involve All Constituents

- Hospitals
- Physicians
- Other Providers
- Government Agencies
- Payers
- Employers
- Groups of Individuals

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Create A Business Model (Requirements for Success)

- Clear Vision
- Focused, Phased Approach
- Alignment of Goals
- Realistic Metrics
- Effective Governance
- On-going Funding
- Simple Technologies

Start With The Population That Wants To Be Included

- Provide Incentives
- Use Existing Patient Identification
- Get Legal Disclaimer
- Provide Patient Portal
- Source(s) of Revenue?

Keep the Technology Simple

- Start with an ASP Model
- Shared Data Center
- Web Technology
- Utilize a Hybrid Data Model

Benefits Of An ASP Model

- Lower Start-up Costs
- Scalability
- Less complicated Infrastructure
- Lower Total Cost of Ownership
- Upgradeability

Benefits of an Data Center

- Multiple Security Check Points
 - Biometric Access Controls
 - Fire Suppression Systems
 - UPS Diesel Generators
 - 24 X 7 Coverage
 - Nightly Back-ups to Secure Off Site Location

Benefits of Web Technology

- Firewalls
- Intrusion Detection System
- Anti Virus Scanners
- VPNs
- Web Browsers
- 128 Bit Secure Socket Layer Encryption (never hacked)

Choose A Hybrid Data Model Approach

- Centralized
 - Patient Demographics
 - Problem List
 - Allergies
 - Medications
 - Lab Tests
 - Encounters
- Decentralized
 - Everything Else

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It is worthwhile and it is doable. Strive for Elegant Simplicity!

Good Luck & Thank You

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