An Introduction to GaHIN, Georgia’s State Designated HIE

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Dedicated to creating a healthier Georgia through the use and exchange of electronic health information

- Advance patient-centered healthcare
- Increase efficiency
- Improve the health of the state’s entire population
Mission:
To facilitate a statewide health information network for Georgia that is trusted and valued by all stakeholders; works to improve healthcare coordination and reduces costs; and establishes a solid foundation for long-term financial sustainability.

Vision:
To create a healthier Georgia through the use and exchange of electronic health information to improve patient-centered health care, increase efficiencies and improve the health of the state’s entire population.

Purpose:
To close the patient information gap across care settings by electronically connecting disparate systems and data sources to support improved quality of care, better health outcomes and reductions in cost.
Creating a Statewide Electronic Network
GaHIN Network Model

Federated-hybrid model, not a central repository of clinical data

- Patient information remains with the treating provider and only flows when there is authorization
GaHIN Products and Services

DirectTrust

GEROGIA DIRECT
Simple, Secure Patient Information Exchange

eHealth Exchange

GEROGIA CONNECTED CARE
Connecting Healthcare & Building a Healthy Georgia
Connecting Georgia

Basic Data Exchange
Free email messaging service to securely send patient health information to other authorized healthcare professionals

2019 (through August)
- 728,802 send & receive transactions
- 6,436 registered providers
- 348 member organizations

2018 Totals
- 747,960 send & receive transactions
- 6,321 registered users
- 327 member organizations
Leveraging GeorgiaDirect Technology

• Early adopter of DIRECT Secure Messaging
• Services include: Outreach, Training, ID Proofing, HISP, DT Certificates, XDR Implementations
• Completed over 25 GeorgiaDirect XDR implementations
• Includes use cases:
  – Long-term care
  – Pharmacies
  – FQHCs
  – Health systems
  – Dialysis & asthma clinics
  – EMS
  – Behavioral health
  – Public health district offices
  – Dentists
  – VA
GEORGIA DIRECT
Connecting Georgia

Robust Integrated Patient Search (Query)
Providers can use their EHR to quickly access patient health data from hospitals, physician practices, state health systems and much more

2019 (through August)
- 14,416 connected providers
- 2,481,856 queries
- 34,940,877 MPI records

2018 Totals
- 10,644 connected providers
- 2,388,290 queries
- 32,273,127 MPI records
Three Ways to Connect

Provider organizations that want to participate in Georgia ConnectedCare and be able to query for patient data from within their EHR have three ways to connect through GaHIN:
Connected Organizations

5 State Agencies
5 Health Systems
4 Regional HIEs
4 CMOs
4 States + VA + DOD
3 Specialty Connections
What Is a Public Health Registry?

• A registry is a collection of information about individuals, usually focused around a specific diagnosis or condition
• The availability of this data at the state level allows health researchers to analyze geographic, racial and other differences that provide clues that point to risk factors
• This data also helps in determining where early detection, educational, or other programs should be directed
Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS) Registry

- Collect and maintain accurate vaccination records for disease prevention and control
- Easy access to individual’s immunization records and reports
- 14,089,253 registered documents
- In process with bi-directional connection between members and DPH through GaHIN
- Launching Georgie DPH’s Certificate of Immunization Form 3231 – PDF printing capability benefiting school nurses and physicians
Georgia Health Registries

- eLabs Submission (via SendSS Gateway ~ State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System)
- DPH Registry Gateway – Live
  - Birth Defects Registry – CHOA first member participant as of 9/2019
    - Recruiting members for participation
  - Alzheimer’s Registry
    - Members onboarding in process
- Newborn Screening Registry
  - Bi-directional connection live as of 9/2019
  - DPH currently working on Newborn Screening content for first document contribution
Georgia Comprehensive Cancer Registry (GCCR) Registry

- GCCR is a statewide population-based cancer registry collecting all cancer cases diagnosed among Georgia residents since January 1, 1995
- In 2017, Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics added GeorgiaDirect as part of their protocol for providers and small hospitals that do not send information electronically
Cancer Registry Success Story

**Before**
Georgia Cancer Registry received monthly pathology reports from 50-60 hospitals, surgery centers, and provider offices via fax and FedEx delivery

**After**
- Converted the process from 100% paper transmission to 95% electronic transmission
- Reduction of three Information Analyst FTEs to one FTE to support record reconciliation
- Staff has more time to analyze data to further the understanding of cancer and develop strategies/policies for prevention, control and treatment
Special and Value-Added Projects
Value-Based HealthCare Atlanta Heart Failure Project

• One of four sites globally, only U.S. location
• Report non-risk adjusted heart failure outcomes and benchmark risk-adjusted outcomes within patient segments to:
  – Identify relevant variations and determine drivers of variation (including socio-economic factors)
  – Codify best practices
• GaHIN’s Role: To serve as the project’s Benchmarking Authority; manage the centralized data repository, support data analyses and project reporting
• AHA’s Get With The Guidelines® Project for heart disease
  – Pilot members: Grady and WellStar
  – Sub-project of the Atlanta Health Failure Project
Value-Added Projects

• **Lab Results** – allow GaHIN members to access a copy of their patient’s lab results
  – Quest and LabCorp Reference Labs

• **Medical Imaging Exchange** – facilitates access to medical images

• **Medication Fill Management** – allow GaHIN members to query and retrieve a patient’s medication fill history including the state’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data

• **ADT Care Alerts** – automatic notification to participating GaHIN members when one of its patients or health plan members has an encounter (ADT) at a participating hospital in Georgia
GaHIN Alerting Events

• GaHIN provides care alerts from providers to care management partners for the following events:
  – **Admitted as inpatient**: When a patient is admitted as an inpatient to Provider
  – **Discharged from inpatient status**: When a patient is discharged from inpatient status from Provider
  – **Transferred to another inpatient facility**: When a patient is transferred to another inpatient facility from Provider
  – **Held on 23 hour observation**: When a patient is held for observation at Provider and it is not considered an ER visit
  – **Treated in ER visit**: When a patient is seen in the emergency room
Results – the Big Win

• Allows case workers at the CMOs and Division of Family and Children Services to view details of encounters and take immediate, necessary action to maintain continuity of care
  – Foster care
  – Adoption process
  – Juvenile Justice

• Facilitates improved communication between the hospitals and the care management organization
QUESTIONS??

Georgia Health Information Network