

State-Wide Secure Clinical Health Information Exchange

UHIN Clinical Health Information Exchange (cHIE)



Problem to be Solved

Every day, Utah clinicians make decisions without access to all the necessary patient information because this information is often scattered among different healthcare organizations that are not connected. Scattered information wastes precious clinician time, causes unnecessary ordering of repeat laboratory and radiology tests, reduces the accuracy of diagnoses, and contributes to medical errors that may harm or even kill the patient.

UHIN cHIE Solution

Beginning in 2009, the UHIN *Clinical Health Information Exchange* (cHIE) network will enable authorized clinicians – with patient permission - to securely electronically locate, connect to, and review patient information scattered across multiple health care organizations. This patient information may include previous medical events, diagnoses, tests, medications, and relevant documents. It is preferred if Clinicians have an Electronic Medical Records (EMR) system to make full use of the cHIE but the cHIE system offers the use of an “e-lite”, which is a ‘baseline’ version of an EMR for those who do not.

The organizations that participate in the cHIE network have agreed to make that information accessible to authorized clinicians – with patient permission - by building secure electronic connections to the cHIE. The cHIE network will authenticate all authorized clinical users and provide privacy protections that comply with Federal and State regulations.

Across the nation, similar HIE networks are developing in almost every state because these networks enable communications that are faster, more current, more complete, more private, and less costly than phone, fax, or postal mail. These networks also can be used by any authorized clinician with a computer and internet access, even if their medical practice does not have an EMR system or they are located in a rural area.

Benefits to the Community

The UHIN cHIE network will provide benefits to patients by improving the continuity of care across health care providers. Patients will know that they are receiving higher quality care because clinicians will have access to all of their health records without delays even when their records are scattered across multiple health care facilities

About UHIN

Utah Health Information Network (UHIN) - An Electronic Commerce Coalition

Since 1993, UHIN members have come together for the common goal of reducing health care costs and improving the quality of care through the use of electronic data interchange (EDI), that is, by exchanging information electronically rather than by phone, fax or surface mail. The Utah Health Information Network (UHIN) is a broad-based coalition of Utah health care insurers, providers, and other interested parties, including State government.

Not-For-Profit

Like sending regular mail, it costs money to run the network. UHIN does charge for its services. However, UHIN is a State not-for-profit company so it only charges enough member fees to cover the costs of running the network. The result is that costs to users are usually far less than the costs of subscribing to a for-profit health care clearinghouse.

UHIN Covers the State

UHIN currently serves nearly all the hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, national laboratories and approximately 90% of the medical providers in Utah. Because we are a community organization we focus on creating solutions that work for the *entire* healthcare community from the large integrated networks to the smallest one-doctor shop.

UHIN Message Format Standards

UHIN is a consensus-based coalition that exchange standardized messages. That means that all the parties exchange data in a standard format using standard codes. UHIN members use nationally accepted transaction formats and codes that are agreed upon by the Utah health care community. This allows all the users to utilize the same codes and formats and reduces costs for everyone. This not only allows for administrative costs savings but it opens the door to improving patient care and safety.

State-Wide Secure Clinical Health Information Exchange

Goal: Connecting Your Health Care “Puzzle” to Create Better Quality Health Care for You

No matter where you receive care in Utah, your health care provider can, with your permission, view basic medical information about you at the point of care.



Patient Consent Options: **DRAFT**

- In (data is shared with authorized clinicians) Default
- Out with Emergency Exception/One time Consent
- Out (no data is shared)



Standardized Repository:

- 1) Lab Results
- 2) Medication (prescription) History
- 3) Active Problem List
- 4) Allergies
- 5) Immunizations

