

Utah HIT Governance Consortium

Statewide Vision and Partnership

2011

Vision Statement:

“Utah is a place where all people can enjoy the best health possible, where all can live, grow and prosper in clean and safe communities.” The application of HIT throughout our state is an essential tool to achieve our vision that, “Utah is a place where the secure and efficient use and exchange of electronic health information will result in improved health status, better health care, lower cost and healthier communities.”

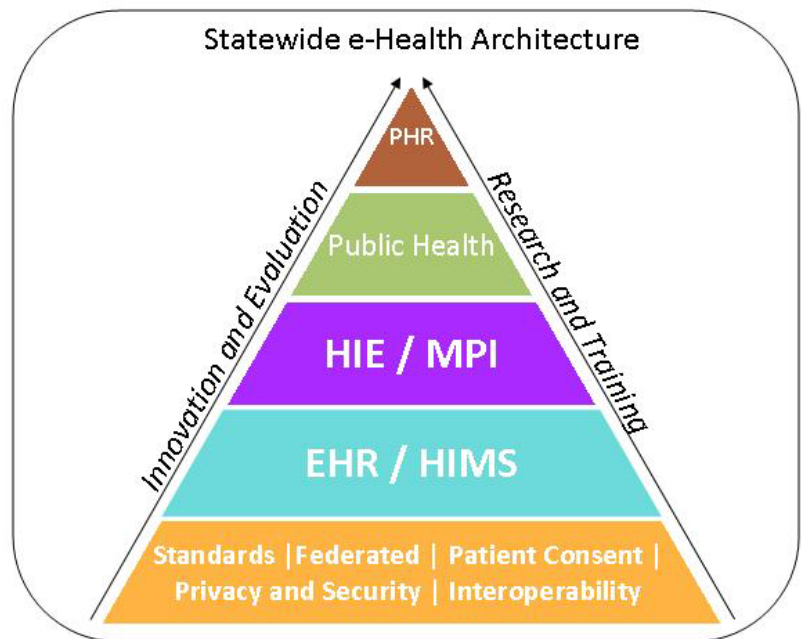
The provision and financing of health care are primarily accomplished by the private sector in Utah, with much of the burden for funding health insurance falling on small businesses. Governor Gary R. Herbert has made health system reform a priority with a goal that *all Utah citizens* have health insurance coverage, and in the process assist businesses in Utah to become more successful in reducing their health care costs. Utah’s active community partnerships have developed a strategic statewide e-Health Architecture that utilizes:

- Utah’s history of statewide cooperation and regional sharing, including urban and rural, practitioners and research partners;
- New legislation for healthcare reforms that support HIT, e-prescribing, and standards;
- A relatively high penetration of Electronic Health Records (**EHR**) and Hospital Information Management Systems (**HIMS**);
- The Utah Health Information Network (**UHIN**), our statewide Health Information Exchange infrastructure (**HIE**) which we will enhance with a Master Person Index (**MPI**) for creating virtual health records.

In order to rapidly improve the quality and efficiency of health care in Utah through the use of the ARRA funds, we have formed the Utah Health Information Technology Governance Consortium. Utah is ready to use the economic stimulus funds to:

- **Rapidly build our infrastructure** to connect all the health care ‘dots’ in Utah;
- **Increase employment** in healthcare and IT sectors;
- Build a **highly qualified workforce** both in HIT and in informatics;
- Be **innovative yet fully accountable** for ARRA project outcomes;
- Add **value and strength** to Utah’s economy by reducing health care costs for Utah businesses, large and small.

Robert T. Rolfs, MD, Deputy Director for Utah Department of Health is the appointed State HIT Coordinator for Utah and Chair of the **Utah HIT Governance Consortium**. Organized in March 2009, the HIT Governance Consortium prioritize ARRA proposals and ensure they help achieve Utah’s stated goals related to health reform, economic **development**, **evidence-based assessment and collaboration and improve health for all**.



Utah HIT Governance Consortium

Utah Department of Health (Chair)
Utah Association of Local Health Officers
Utah Chartered Value Exchange at HealthInsight
Utah Department of Insurance
Utah Department of Technology Service
Utah Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health
Utah Health Information Network
University of Utah
Utah State Office of Education
Utah State University

AARP
ARUP Laboratories
Association for Utah Community Health
Tribal Governments/HHS
Utah Association for Home Health Care (UAHC)/Utah Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (UHPCO)

Utah Digital Health Services Commission
Utah Health Care Association
Utah Health Insurance Association
Utah Hospital Association
Utah Medical Association
Utah Pharmacists Association
Utah Telehealth Network
VA Medical Center