



Indiana Health Information Exchange

Backgrounder

WHO: The Indiana Health Information Exchange is a non-profit organization formed in 2004. It was formed by Indiana’s major healthcare providers, payors, physicians, public and business leaders. Those include: Regenstrief Institute, Indiana University School of Medicine, BioCrossroads and a collection of Indiana’s largest hospital systems (Clarian Health, Community Health Network, St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers, St. Vincent Health and Wishard Health Services). Other participants include the nation’s largest health insurer (WellPoint), UnitedHealthcare and employer groups.

IHIE brings these stakeholders together to agree on practical, beneficial services at a sustainable price. IHIE offers its DOCS4DOCS[®] Service and the Quality Health First[®] Program. Additional information on these services can be found at: www.ihie.org

WHAT: The Indiana Health Information Exchange is one of the nation’s most respected health information exchange organizations. Health Information Exchange is a term used to describe the secure electronic movement of health-related information among organizations according to nationally recognized standards.

WHY: A lack of access to and coordination of existing information results in errors, misdiagnoses, patient safety issues, cost inefficiencies and other wastefulness.

Unfortunately, without an interoperable, standards-based health information infrastructure that plugs the information gap (like the Indiana Health Information Exchange), electronic medical records and other software solutions by themselves will not deliver any significant improvements in the U.S. healthcare system. It’s also a patient safety issue: Medical errors take nearly 100,000 lives each year. Many of these errors could be due to missing or incomplete medical information that could be eased through the use of a robust and secure health information infrastructure.

HOW: IHIE bridges the gap between paper-based and electronic-based medical sites by creating a network that can be used by physicians, including those *who do* and those *who do not yet* have an EMR or other health IT system, providing reach to even the small or rural physician practices—the setting where over 80% of care is delivered *and* the least likely to have adopted an electronic medical record.

IHIE offers services that streamline the healthcare industry. It securely delivers information at the point-of-care, provides keen insights and real-world feedback to promote an effective, efficient, secure and reliable healthcare system.