NYecnews

2014 Digital Health Conference

A Vision for the Future of Healthcare

Our fourth annual Digital Health Conference brought together stakeholders from across NY's healthcare ecosystem to showcase recent innovations, network, and discuss healthcare's radical transformation through technology. This year's conference was our most successful yet with more than 800 attendees, 50 speakers, and 15 thought-provoking break out sessions. Top-level health IT professionals, CIOs, CMIOs, investors, entrepreneurs, academics, and a multitude of vendors gathered to hear industry thought leaders discuss how digital health innovations are helping to personalize the patient experience.

Nationally-known healthcare experts, Dr Eric J. Topol, MD, Director, Scripps Translational Science Institute and Dr. Ezekiel J. Emanuel, Vice Provost for Global Initiatives & Chair of the Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy, University of Pennsylvania delivered the keynote addresses.

Both speakers provided provocative and unique insights discussing how the utilization of data and digital tools will significantly improve patient care, transform care delivery, and better personalize medicine.

Hot discussion topics at the conference included the game-changing impact of New York State's DSRIP initiative, the potential of patient generated health data, the importance of interoperability standards to enable data exchange, and the emergence of sensors and scanners. We'd like to thank all of our attendees sponsors, partners, and speakers who helped to make this year's Digital Health Conference a resounding success.

Watch the Day One Opening Video

Visit **twitter.com/hashtag/dhc14** to view additional highlights from the conference.

Democratizing Medicine: Eric Topol Pushes Patient-Centered Healthcare

As the healthcare industry moves into an era of accountable care, new digital tools can help democratize medicine, Eric Topol, M.D., director at the La Jolla, Calif.-based Scripps Translational Science Institute, said in a keynote at the New York eHealth Collaborative's (NYeC) 2014 Digital Health Conference.

In a crowded room full of conference attendees, who at times seemed mesmerized by the examples of how far digital health tools have come, Topol said that these new technologies will allow providers to move to individualized medicine. "You can have multilayers of information about someone," he said. "It's almost like a Google Maps for each patient."

Topol outlined eight tools that will democratize healthcare in the future, ranging in areas from sensors to labs to imaging to physical exams to health records to the "Uber doc."

Read more.
(Source: *Healthcare Informatics*)

Telemedicine, Digital Health Vital to Med Industry's Transition into the Future

Home visits, telemedicine and digital health all will be ubiquitous as healthcare reform continues to take hold, according to University of Pennsylvania-based health economist Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel. Emanuel, who served as a keynote speaker at the New York eHealth Collaborative's Digital Health Conference on Tuesday, predicted that 1,000 acute care hospitals will close as a result of the Affordable Care Act, **according to** *MedCity News.* To that end, he said, top hospitals will conduct complicated medical procedures, with patient recovery transitioning from such facilities to the home.

Telemedicine, in particular, will be vital to such efforts, he said, as it will allow for physicians to treat patients on the patients' terms. "The hospital won't be the locus of care that it has always been," Emanuel said, **according to** *Healthcare Informatics.*

Read more.
(Source: *Fierce HealthIT*)

NEW YORK eHEALTH COLLABORATIVE
GALA & PATH AWARDS
PROMOTING ADVANCEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE

Hosted by the NYeC Board of Directors, and emceed by Maria Bartiromo, Anchor and Global Markets Editor, FOX Business Network, the NYeC Gala and Awards Ceremony honored the achievements of those who champion the cause of advancing healthcare through technology for all New Yorkers and beyond.

PATH Awards were presented to:

Sanford I. Weill
Chairman Emeritus of Citigroup; Former Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Mr. Weill was honored for his vision in developing innovative, state-of-the-art healthcare facilities and top-tier medical education in New York.

Illumina
David Bentley, VP, Chief Scientist accepting

Illumina was honored for their genomic analysis solutions that serve as tools for disease research, drug discovery, and the development of molecular tests in clinical labs.

Patricia A. Bomba, MD, FACP
Vice President and Medical Director, Geriatrics, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

NYeC celebrated Dr. Bomba's accomplishments in developing a readily accessible electronic MOLST form and creating the New York eMOLST Registry.

Larry McReynolds
President, Lutheran Family Health Centers

NYeC celebrated Mr. McReynold's accomplishments in developing accessible, high-quality community-based healthcare services.

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Two Regional Health Information Organizations to Merge, Improving Healthcare Across Hudson Valley, Catskills, and Southern Tier

In a step toward unified exchange of health information in New York State, Southern Tier Healthlink (STHL) and Taconic Health Information Network and Community (THINC) announced their plans today to merge into a single Qualified Entity (formerly known as a Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO)) called HealthlinkNY. This new collaborative will span 11 counties across the Hudson Valley, Catskills, and Southern Tier, offering secure electronic access to statewide health information for both participating providers and patients in the region, as well as information and tools to aid in health transformation.

As a Qualified Health IT Entity (QE), HealthlinkNY will maintain patients' electronic health records from participating healthcare organizations and provider practices across the expansive geographical region, consolidating them into more centralized and consolidated records. Access to these records through HealthlinkNY's single, central, secure platform will allow a healthcare provider to view a patient's complete medical record rather than relying on transfer requests, faxes, phone calls, or even the patient to obtain this information. In this way, this expanded network will enable more efficient care coordination, reduce duplication of medical testing, and substantially cut healthcare costs.

Read more.
(Source: *Southern Tier HealthLink*)

Health IT Groups Form Alliance to Improve Data Exchange

HIMSS, IHE USA, and the EHR/HIE Interoperability Workgroup announce plans to streamline and strengthen how electronic health records and health information exchanges share patient data

Health information technology customers expect products to work efficiently and consistently—whether it's a wi-fi connection for a computer or the ability to securely share health data across computer systems, states, or regions. Building on its current effort to connect electronic health records (EHRs) to health information exchanges (HIEs), the **EHR/HIE Interoperability Workgroup (IWG)** has formed a strategic relationship with **HIMSS** and **Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) USA** to streamline the process for achieving connectivity between EHR and HIE systems. This alliance will strengthen IWG's current program to test and certify EHRs and HIE vendors to enable reliable transfer of data within and across organizational and state boundaries. ICSA Labs has been selected as the testing and certification body for this effort.

The value of this collaboration affects more than half the U.S. population and their healthcare providers who will now have the ability to securely access health data that is shared across multiple states and systems. Working together, these organizations want to make sure that healthcare providers implementing health IT solutions buy products that are interoperable with other software products.

Read more.

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More Physicians' Eyes will See Your Medical Records in 2015

Christine Brouwer Hinman of Ithaca saw the need for electronic health records when she found herself keeping pages of notes on her young daughter's complex cancer care.

Mira was diagnosed with brain cancer in 2006 and died at the age of four in 2008. She received specialty care at hospitals in Syracuse, Rochester, and New York City, had 14 surgeries and underwent multiple rounds of chemotherapy, and saw her primary care physician in Ithaca as well as speech, occupational, and physical therapists. Hinman became the link between her daughter's healthcare providers and hundreds of the youngster's medical records located around the state. She carried around Mira's medical images on CDs that recorded the youngster's illness, kept track of all of her daughter's medical files, and after each medical visit recorded any changes in her daughter's medication.

The difficulty families and patients have connecting the disparate parts of medical care in New York is gradually diminishing with an emerging system of electronic medical record exchanges.

Read more.
(Source: *Ithaca Journal*)

Digital Health Accelerator Demo Day

Seven Leading Digital Health Tech Companies to Showcase Cutting Edge Healthcare Solutions at December 4th Demo Day in NYC

The **New York Digital Health Accelerator** — an intense 5-month program created by the New York eHealth Collaborative and the Partnership Fund for New York City to foster New York's growing health tech sector — will feature seven leading early- and growth-stage health tech companies that are developing cutting-edge technology products in care coordination, patient engagement, predictive analytics, and workflow management for healthcare providers as a part of its demo day on Thursday, December 4.

The Accelerator, now in its second year, is unlike other accelerator programs in that it offers participants the opportunity to engage directly with a broad network of providers in New York State, including hospitals, long-term care providers, community health centers, and primary care providers. This gives them access to a ready market for their products. They also receive direct mentorship and feedback from senior-level executives with the participating providers and will have priority access to the technology platform that is connecting electronic health records across New York State, the Statewide Health Information Network of New York (SHIN-NY). As part of the Accelerator, each chosen company also received up to $200,000 in investment capital.

Learn more.

California, New York Efforts Highlight Shift in Health Data Exchange

A major source of funding for electronic health information exchange has historically been federal grants, such as those provided by the **HITECH Act**, which included, among other things, grants for the development of statewide HIE infrastructure. With this funding largely gone, the locus of electronic HIE activity has been shifting from the federal government to public—and, increasingly, private—healthcare stakeholders at the state and local level.

In the absence of federal funding, healthcare providers, health plans, consumer advocates, and state policymakers are all testing new strategies to increase interoperability and to shore up the financial sustainability of their HIE efforts. Not surprisingly, their strategies are diverse and include regional HIE initiatives (e.g., the Santa Cruz HIE and various other regional HIEs operating throughout California) and private proprietary HIE initiatives operated by hospitals that use Epic Care or other health IT tools to connect with healthcare providers in the community, among others.

Two unique efforts are occurring in California and New York. Both serve as viable options for a large-scale exchange; they also provide a glimpse into how a nationwide health information network might evolve in the post-HITECH world (i.e., in a world without federal grants to fund electronic HIE).

Read more.
(Source: *iHealthBeat*)

Bassett Healthcare Network Connects to Hixny

Bassett Healthcare Network has joined Hixny, a Qualified Entity (QE) serving more than 1.6 million customers in the Greater Capital Region and Northern New York. As a member of Hixny, Bassett Healthcare Network's six hospitals are now connected to Hixny's Health Information Exchange (HIE), which allows the secure sharing of medical information, with patient consent, across a diverse group of health care organizations, including hospitals, physician practices, health plans, and healthcare associations.

With this newest connection, all six hospitals in the Bassett Healthcare Network will be connected with Hixny's HIE, along with the network's home care agency, At Home Care. This represents secure electronic medical records for more than 700,000 office visits, on average, each year in the eight county area the Bassett Healthcare Network serves. The electronic medical records can be safely and securely shared, with patient consent, within Hixny's robust HIE.

Read more.
(Source: *Hixny*)

Partner Events

Hixny Connects: 2014 Annual Meeting

December 9, 2014 | Albany, NY

Hixny Connects is our annual networking event and business update that has quickly become known as our region's "Healthcare event of the year." Hixny Connects brings together healthcare professionals, business leaders, government officials, and community members for an evening of networking and to learn about Hixny's progress over the past year in helping transform healthcare in our region and what we're planning for the year ahead.

Don't miss this important and exciting event!

Learn more and register.

Health Initiative 2015 Annual Conference & Members Meeting

February 3-5, 2015 | Washington, DC

Join our partner eHealth Initiative (eHI) for their 2015 Annual Conference and Members Meeting. eHealth Initiative is creating an exclusive and indispensable two and a half day event that will include Learning Lab breakout sessions, live debates, and workgroup discussions focused on hot topics within Interoperability, Data Access & Use, and Business and Clinical Motivators. eHealth Initiative's Annual Conference includes a variety of perspectives and stakeholders in a more intimate and neutral environment. The event attracts hundreds of attendees from professional societies, patient advocacy groups, payers, health systems, pharmacies, labs, medical device manufacturers, and many other key constituencies.

Learn more and register.

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