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## Final State Budget Funds Statewide Health Information Network of New York

*Funding Will Help to Drive Adoption and Usage of New York's Electronic Health Records System*

*50,000 Healthcare Providers Already Participate in the SHIN-NY; Over 7 Million New Yorkers Have Given Consent for Their Medical Records to Be Shared*

**New York, NY** –The New York State Legislature voted to support New York's electronic health records system – known as the Statewide Health Information Network of New York (the SHIN-NY). The final New York State Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget includes \$45M in State funding for the SHIN-NY and its Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIOs), which will continue the work to build this public network, allowing healthcare providers and patients to seamlessly access electronic health records throughout the state.

“The Regional Health Information Organizations and New York e-Health Collaborative would like to thank Governor Cuomo, Speaker Heastie, Senate Majority Leader Skelos and the entire Legislature for prioritizing the health of all New Yorkers by authorizing crucial funding for the Statewide Health Information Network of New York in the final budget. By enabling healthcare providers to securely share vital health information throughout the state, the SHIN-NY will help to improve the quality, efficiency and ease of treatment for patients,” said **Dave Whitlinger, Executive Director of the New York eHealth Collaborative, which coordinates activities for the SHIN-NY.**

“Already, over 50,000 doctors and healthcare providers participate in the SHIN-NY and over 7 million New Yorkers have given consent for their medical records to be shared. This year's funding will build on the strong foundation the RHIOs have already built to drive further adoption and usage of the network. The New York e-Health Collaborative and RHIOs look forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature to continue the development of the SHIN-NY, an important public network that will help save lives and transform our state healthcare.”

In addition to driving adoption and usage of the network, the funding for the SHIN-NY in the budget will help to make a core set of standard services available to all participants. These services will allow doctors to look up individual patient records through a secure search engine, exchange direct messages with other doctors, and receive alerts when their patients have an important event such as entering an emergency room or being discharged from a hospital.

The SHIN-NY will also be a key component in to helping providers who are working together through programs such as the Delivery System Reform Incentive Program (DSRIP) collaborate with each other to improve the quality of care while reducing costs.

New York has been at the forefront of health innovation and is the first large state in the country building a public network of interconnected electronic health records of this kind. Implementation of the SHIN-NY is poised to transform patient care, promote economic development, lower state healthcare costs and enhance overall public health.

**About The New York eHealth Collaborative (NYeC):** NYeC is a not-for-profit organization, working in partnership with the New York State Department of Health to improve healthcare for all New Yorkers through health information technology (health IT). The New York eHealth Collaborative is the State designated entity for coordinating the [Statewide Health Information Network of New York](#) (SHIN-NY), a network to connect healthcare providers statewide. Founded in 2006 by healthcare leaders, NYeC receives funding from state and federal grants to serve as the focal point for health IT in the State of New York. NYeC works to develop policies and standards, to assist healthcare providers in making the shift to electronic health records, and. [www.nyehealth.org](http://www.nyehealth.org) & @NYeHealth.

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