NYecnews

NYeC
NEW YORK eHEALTH
COLLABORATIVE

2012: A Year Of Working Together

The New York eHealth Collaborative is just that: a collaboration. Without the support of so many of you working tirelessly around the state, the work we strive to accomplish would be impossible. So, for our end-of-year newsletter we wanted to mention just a few of those milestones we see as crucial in our coming together to improve healthcare.

Connecting the RHIOs

The Regional Health Information Organizations across the state of New York have been the engines running steadily to keep clinical information flowing in their regions. When a patient's record is needed in an emergency on one side of the county, RHIOs have made it possible for that information to be accessed from the other side of the county when there's no time to lose. This year, a number of downstate RHIOs connected to NYeC, further developing and expanding the SHIN-NY. And conversations progress with all of the RHIOs, including those upstate. The cooperation it takes to connect so many diverse pieces from across the state has been a testament to the hard work and dedication of all those involved.

Solving Interoperability

One of the greatest problems in health information exchange is making sure one system can talk to another. Which is why the EHR | HIE Interoperability Workgroup, a coalition of states and vendors working together to guide inter-operability between software platforms is so critical. Over the past year, the number of states involved in the workgroup has increased to 17, representing over 50% of the population of the United States. This includes 40 technology vendors, each committed to working together to test existing standards and develop standardized interfaces.

Building on the SHIN-NY API

With progress on the Application Programming Interface (API) for the SHIN-NY, developers are having their first crack at building new healthcare technology on top of the Statewide Health Information Network of New York, in a test setting. The API allows innovators and health IT companies to access the information required to begin developing products to meet healthcare providers' needs, while ensuring standardization of their applications and software. The API was launched along with the New York Digital Health Accelerator, a program to fund and mentor promising tech companies to develop cutting edge products.

Creating Policy

The Statewide Collaborative Process (SCP) continues to gather together representatives from hospitals, RHIOs, HIEs, healthcare practices, and more. These individuals, working alongside NYeC and the New York State Department of Health, pool their experience and backgrounds to develop policies and standards to protect the public's privacy and security as new technology develops. Over the past year, the group has reviewed and considered extensive public comments, and is currently working to update the Statewide Policy Guidance to reflect new input.

Achieving Meaningful Use

Health information technology and exchange is nothing without providers having the ability to connect. And those providers depend on the education and training required to switch from paper to electronic records. The NYeC REC, in collaboration with local partner NYC REACH, offers guidance for the adoption of electronic health records and new technologies, all the way to meaningful use. To date, 9,453 providers have joined the regional extension centers, and approximately 2090 of them have reached meaningful use. For more information: http://dashboard.healthit.gov/meaningfuluse/

Our Partners in the News

The Healthcare Information Xchange of New York (HIXNY) has released a new video explaining the tremendous benefits of HIE in care coordination, for both providers and their patients.

Join the Conversation!

Keep up-to-date about our health IT initiatives and connect with the community!

Facebook http://on.fb.me/IrmRsm
Linked In http://linkd.in/JH2huJ
Twitter http://twitter.com/NYeHealth

**And have a happy and safe holiday season,
from all of us at NYeC!**

For more information please visit us at: www.nyehealth.org