

2013: A Year of Collaboration

We thank you for your support this year and look forward to collaborating with you on New York's healthcare transformation in the coming year.

We wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. Best Wishes for 2014!

Healthix and the Brooklyn Health Information Exchange (BHIX) Announce Their Merger, Effective December 1



Healthix and BHIX recently announced that their merger became effective December 1. Among the key objectives for the newly merged Healthix will be expanding health information exchange (HIE) among its participants while shaping a robust relationship with the New York eHealth Collaborative (NYeC) for development of the **Statewide Health Information Network of New York (SHIN-NY)**.

The merged RHIO will retain the Healthix name and will be governed by a new Board of Directors, chaired by Richard J. Donoghue, Senior Vice President for Strategy, Planning and Business Development at NYU Langone Medical Center.

The newly merged Healthix brings to bear a great deal of expertise in delivering health information exchange services, access to clinical data and the tools to support care coordination for over 9 million patients and over 100 participant organizations serving over 400 locations in New York City and Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

[Read more](#)

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HIE: Saving Lives & Transforming Healthcare

"I believe that health information exchange will have the biggest impact on improving healthcare and population health for decades to come," opines Lewis W. Marshall, Jr., MD, JD, Chairman of Ambulatory Care and Community Health Medicine at Brookdale Hospital and Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York.

He watches HIE save lives first-hand because Brookdale is connected to the BHIX RHIO and the Statewide Health Information Network of New York (SHIN-NY). Brookdale's ER is a Level I Trauma Center that sees hundreds of cases each day. Their ER's ability to instantly access accurate patient data can literally mean the difference between life and death.

We had a chance to sit down with Dr. Marshall and discuss the life-saving and transformative power of health information exchange (HIE).

[View the video](#)



EHR Use Boosts Diabetes Care, Federally Funded Project Finds

Electronic health record use can help improve the health and care coordination of patients with diabetes, according to a federally funded study by the Western New York Beacon Community, the Buffalo News reports (Watson, Buffalo News, 12/12).

[Read more](#)

(Source: iHealthBeat)

New York State's Regional Extension Centers: "A Meaningful Year"

2013 has been an eventful year for New York State's two Regional Extension Centers (RECs) — the NYeC REC and NYC REACH. For much of the year, New York State has been amongst the nation's leaders in helping healthcare providers attain Meaningful Use. To date, of the 13,918 providers enrolled in the Medicare and Medicaid Service's EHR Adoption and Incentive Program through a REC, over 5,900 have attained Meaningful Use.

In addition, New York State successfully launched a new EHR adoption program targeting behavioral health providers, seeking to improve clinical outcomes for the seriously and persistently mentally ill. The HEAL 22 program is working to establish seamless exchange of health information within and across Medicaid Health Homes providers to achieve integrated care and improve health outcomes for this vulnerable population. HEAL 22 also supports providers of the developmental disability community and pediatric providers of behavioral health services who are not yet participating in the Health Home program.

To date, over 30 Health Homes and 7,600 behavioral health providers across the state have enrolled in the HEAL 22 program.

New York State Medicaid EHR Incentive Program – Enroll Today

December 31, 2013 Deadline Nears to Receive Full Medicaid Program EHR Incentives and Services

The **New York State Medicaid EHR Incentive Program** is a New York eHealth Collaborative (NYeC) Regional Extension Center (REC) initiative that provides outreach, technical, and support services to help eligible providers adopt an electronic health record (EHR) system to meet the requirements to attain Meaningful Use (MU).

The time to enroll is now. There is limited availability and time constraints. Enrollment in the New York State Medicaid EHR Incentive Program exceeds 30% as the deadline to receive full services nears.

There are two milestones that must be achieved:

- 1) **AIU the adoption, implementation, or upgrade of a certified EHR**
- 2) **Attestation of Meaningful Use**

The first milestone (AIU) must be completed by December 31, 2013 to receive the full benefits of the Program. Specialists, as well as Primary Care Practitioners are eligible to receive support from the REC for MU incentives and are now encouraged to enroll in this adoption program. The program will help eligible providers qualify for up to \$63,750 under the Medicaid Incentive Program for the adoption, implementation, and upgrade of a certified EHR and attestation of Meaningful Use Stage 1.

For program information or to determine if you are eligible to participate in program please contact Peggy Frizzell at pfrizzell@nyehealth.org or (646) 619-6562.

HIE: Saving Lives & Transforming Healthcare



Hixny Connects 2013

Hundreds of healthcare professionals, business leaders, government officials and community members attended Hixny Connects 2013 in Albany in early December. In addition to Hixny's annual meeting of the member representatives, the event included Keynote Speaker John Halamka, MD, MS, Featured Speaker New York State Assembly member John T. McDonald, III, and the Innovation Showcase, a behind-the-scenes look at Hixny HIE in action.

In his remarks Halamka praised Hixny for its success in being a leader in provider adoption and the organization's undertaking in 2014 to unveil its secure Patient Portal. The portal will empower patients to view, download and transmit their electronic health records and take a more proactive role in their care.

John Bennett, MD, President and CEO of CDPHP, Hixny Board Chair, and NYeC Board Member, discussed several goals achieved by Hixny in 2013. In addition to receiving its one millionth patient consent, Hixny also surpassed three million office visit summaries into the HIE, cited Bennett.

Hixny CEO Mark McKinney reported that Hixny now has 586 connected entities to the HIE, a number which will continue to grow. In addition, 62% of all providers in Hixny's 17 county service area are connected to the query-based HIE. This is outpacing both national (2%) and New York State (10%) averages. McKinney spoke of the goals of 2014 which include, among others, supporting the efforts of the SHIN-NY.



(Left to right) – Mark McKinney, CEO, Hixny, New York State Assembly Member John T. McDonald, III, John Bennett, MD, CEO, CDPHP, and Chair of Hixny's Board of Directors, and John Halamka, MD, MS.

Partner Event



New York Chapter American College of Physicians Annual Scientific Conference

Friday, March 21, 2014 | Buffalo, New York

The [New York Chapter American College of Physicians](#) (NYACP) invites you to Buffalo, New York, on March 21, 2014 for the 2014 Annual Scientific Conference.

This exclusive annual event gathers together Doctors of Internal Medicine for one day of educational sessions, knowledge sharing, networking and exhibits.

Why Attend:

- Gain insight into recent medical advances (Earn a maximum to 25.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)
- Prepare for your recertification (Earn up to 20 ABIM MOC Credits)
- Stay for the weekend and attend the two-day Board Certification and Recertification Course for an additional 18 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™
- High Value Cost Conscious Health Care Module for Residents
- Greet old friends, meet new friends and develop a network of colleagues

NYACP is New York's largest medical specialty organization representing over 12,000 physicians specializing in general and subspecialty Internal Medicine. The mission of the NYACP is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of health care by fostering excellence and professionalism in the practice of medicine.

Learn more and register while early bird rates are still in effect.

www.nyacp.org/annualmeeting

2013 Digital Health Conference Highlights

Did you miss last month's Digital Health Conference? No worries, you're in luck! Watch the [Day One highlight reel](#), see [what your peers were tweeting](#), and check out our [photo album](#).

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