

NYeCNews

VOLUME 114 : JUNE 9, 2020

Executive Director Update as the SHIN-NY Continues to Provide Critical COVID-19 Support

The last three months have been a whirlwind, a period full of uncertainty and fear, but also strength and determination. The healthcare community and its intrepid frontline workers were confronted with a crisis that developed and evolved with no clear end in sight. From hospitals and their direct care providers, to emergency responders, public health departments, ambulatory and community providers, and so many others — this has forged a new frontier in healthcare that continues to require tremendous collaboration, coordination, innovation, and nimbleness. It has been inspiring to observe and a true honor to lead an organization contributing to these efforts in its own way. The SHIN-NY has supported the surge, helped stop the spread, and contributed to a better understanding of COVID-19.



Alerts continue to be sent to providers, notifying them of COVID-19 test results and informing care decisions. Qualified Entities (QEs) are actively sending key clinical data to state and local health departments, strengthening response efforts both now and in the future. Providers across the state are continuing to deliver care in new ways, outside of the traditional clinical environments, and the SHIN-NY is supporting this change with efficient access to clinical information that can better inform their assessments and decisions. The SHIN-NY is supporting public health efforts and supplementing contact tracing efforts statewide...

Read the full letter and learn more about current efforts to improve healthcare for our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond at the link below.

Take care,



Valerie Grey
Executive Director
New York eHealth Collaborative

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Healthcare Innovation Shares Stakeholder Recommendations to ONC's Federal Health IT Strategic Plan



In response to the public comment period on the draft 2020-2025 Federal Health IT Strategic Plan, nearly one hundred organizations submitted comments both praising the Office of the National Coordinator's (ONC) plan as well as stressing areas of improvement.

Commentary included improvement recommendations on patient matching, consent, and improved provider-to-provider data exchange. *Healthcare Innovation* highlighted in its piece comments from NYeC arguing for a nationwide consensus on consent, "While the draft plan places a strong emphasis on patient empowerment and streamlining processes to reduce barriers to sharing health information, it does not adequately address strategies for streamlining patient consent in a manner that ensures the right health information is flowing when and where it is needed. NYeC believes current proposals have failed to sufficiently address the topic and much more work needs to be done to ensure alignment."

[FULL ARTICLE](#)

HITAC Shares History & Highlights Infographic

The Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) recently published an infographic highlighting the Committee's history, evolution, and activity through January 2020. HITAC has an important role to recommend policies, standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. HITAC focuses on three specific areas as defined in the 21st Century Cures Act: Interoperability, Privacy and Security, and Patient Access.

The importance of such a committee and these key roles have become even more critical in light of the COVID-19 pandemic as issues around privacy and interoperability become increasingly front and center. HITAC responded to these issues immediately by conducting multiple coronavirus-specific sessions addressing some of these factors, their impact, and how to deliver related support to providers treating patients in the midst of this crisis, and beyond. NYeC's Executive Director, Valerie Grey, serves on this important committee.

[SEE THE INFOGRAPHIC](#)

Bronx RHIO: Reporting and Research on COVID-19



“Since the COVID-19 outbreak began in New York, the Bronx RHIO has quickly adapted its resources to serve public health agencies and its diverse membership.

As knowledge develops about COVID-19 treatments, risk factors, and complications, Bronx RHIO is continuously working to find clinical data elements to track these factors. Bronx RHIO has also worked with its large data contributors to expand and refine the clinical data [they] provide, such as respiratory flow sheets, which provide richer ventilation use data.”

Read the full update at the button below.

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HealthConnections Letter from the CEO: Adapting to the “New Normal”



President & CEO of HealthConnections, Rob Hack, recently shared a message with the organization’s stakeholders announcing a strategic refocusing toward more efficient, virtual engagement offerings.

“While our operating environments have changed, our mission remains anchored in trusted collaboration, innovation and customer satisfaction, allowing our participants to deliver better care, at lower costs, with improved patient experience and outcomes. By focusing on virtual strategies and actions, we are affirming our commitment to keep HIE services accessible in an unprecedented situation with uncommon challenges.”

Read the full letter at the link below.

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HEALTHeLINK: HIE Integration Webinar



Recently, HEALTHeLINK's Executive Director, Dan Porreca, Kim Fecher, RN, Clinical Specialist and Senior Account Manager at HEALTHeLINK, and Becky Learn, VP, Client Experiences at the Indiana Health Information Exchange spoke at a webinar hosted by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), titled "HIE Integration to Improve Outcomes and Positively Influence Care". This webinar offered a closer look into how efficient integration and use of health information exchange can lead to more efficient care, improved care quality, and streamlined administrative tasks.

Visit the link below to access the recording and slide deck.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Healthix: VillageCareMAX COVID-19 Success Story



VillageCareMAX, a New York City-based specialty health insurer focused on home and community-based care, has utilized the SHIN-NY through Healthix to better support patient care during the COVID-19 health crisis and further illustrate the value of health information exchange. Since the start of the pandemic in New York, SHIN-NY alerts have been sent to healthcare providers about COVID-19 test results. Through these alerts, VillageCareMAX, and healthcare providers across the state, were able to identify a growing number of affected members.

"Often, the Healthix alerts provide results before members hear from their doctors. We call the members, make sure they're getting homecare services, and educate them on mitigating the spread of the virus," commented Janice Leacock, Senior Director, Care Management at VillageCareMAX.

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Hixny: How Hixny is Helping Healthcare Providers Fight the Coronavirus



Hixny CEO Mark McKinney spoke recently about the challenges and successes for the SHIN-NY during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It’s really exciting to be able to support something and really, most importantly, find a way to support some of our front line workers who are really doing the lion’s share of the work to really bring this under control,” McKinney said. “We’re glad to do our little part where we do what we can to support them.”

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Join Our Team!

This is an unprecedented moment for healthcare technology and digital health nationwide. Are you ready to be at the forefront of it in New York State?

Albany Opportunities

- [Contracting Manager](#)
- [Information Security Analyst/Engineer](#)
- [Communications and Marketing Manager](#)

NYeC is an equal opportunity employer.

[NYEC CAREERS](#)

The Data Exchange Incentive Program (DEIP) is Still Available for your Organization!

Learn how The Data Exchange Incentive Program (DEIP) could help your organization:

The DEIP has already helped over 900 organizations across New York State and it could help your organization also. Learn whether you are eligible today.

The program offers a full funding amount of \$13,000 to Medicaid providers who connect and contribute a pre-defined set of data to their QE.

Is your organization one of the following organization types?

- Article 28 Skilled Nursing Facility
- Article 28 Diagnostic and Treatment Center
- Article 36 Home Care Agency
- Article 40 Hospice
- Behavioral Health Organization (OMH, OASAS or HCBS)
- Organizations with at least one provider that has attested to and been paid under the Medicare or Medicaid MU program (any year, any stage)

More program requirements can be found [here](#). In addition, any questions about the DEIP can be sent to deip@nyehealth.org.

Updates for the NY Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Payment Year (PY) 2019 Attestations

To allow providers to focus on patient care during this unprecedented time, the NY Medicaid EHR Incentive Program has provided extensions to the program deadlines for Payment Year (PY) 2019. The new PY2019 Program Deadlines are as follows:

- ADE Request Period End (Last Day to Submit ADE) **June 22, 2020**
- Final PY2019 Attestation Submission Deadline with Approved ADE **July 8, 2020**

Payment Year 2020 Reminders:

To allow providers to focus on patient care during this unprecedented time, the NY Medicaid EHR Incentive Program has provided extensions to the program deadlines for Payment Year (PY) 2019. The new PY2019 Program Deadlines are as follows:

- Eligible Providers (EPs) should update their intent to submit data to a New York sponsored Public Health Registry in the MURPH system at their earliest availability. This update must be completed for each year AND must be completed before or within 60 days of the beginning of the EPs 90-day reporting period.
- The Medicaid Patient Volume reporting period must be a continuous 90-day period from either the previous calendar year (2019) or 12 months preceding the attestation date. We suggest reporting from the previous calendar year which allows EPs to identify their MPV now.
- It's never too early to run and review provider reports in order to identify a 90-day reporting period or to identify objectives that need additional work.

The EP2 Team is available to provide free assistance and support services to achieve Promoting Interoperability (formerly Meaningful Use) Objectives and prepare for Payment Year (PY) 2020.

Contact us today at EP2@nyehealth.org.