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Chairwoman's Message

Dear PAeHI Community:

It's hard to believe that Summer is almost behind us, but there is much to report on since our last issue, and much to prepare for as we head into the final quarter of 2010. Since we last wrote, PAeHI has welcomed aboard our new Executive Director, Dr. Christine Cavanaugh, we've partnered in nine (9) PA REACH outreach sessions, we've completed our first consulting assignment for GOHCR, we've hosted our Summer All Committee event and also embarked on the publication of a new PAeHI white paper regarding HIE sustainability.

New Executive Director



On July 1, Dr. Christine Cavanaugh joined PAeHI as our new Executive Director, taking over for PAeHI's first ED, Mark Stevens, who has moved to a part time role as Deputy Director for Programs and Communications. Dr. Cavanaugh has her Ed.D. and MBA from the University of West Florida, and brings a wealth of experience to PAeHI. Chris can be reached at ccavanaugh@paehi.org. Welcome, Chris!

PA REACH Outreach Sessions

PAeHI is playing a lead role in communications and education for PA REACH, and participated in each of the nine (9) outreach sessions held across PA this summer. Each of the sessions provided information regarding ARRA EHR incentives, Meaningful Use and the services available through by PA REACH East and West. The meetings were a success, and included stops in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Erie, Lancaster, the Poconos, Washington, PA, Harrisburg, York and Reynoldsville. PA REACH has additional webinars planned, further information will be forthcoming. For information, please see the PA REACH Update in this edition of PAeHI News.

GOHCR HIE PROJECT

On June 11th, PAeHI submitted an HIE Pennsylvania "environmental scan" to the Governor's Office of Health Care Reform as part of a consulting agreement with GOHCR to support the PHIX program and GOCHR's participation in the federal HIE Cooperative Agreement program. The paper's objective was to "provide an environmental or readiness scan of priority hospitals and health systems in Pennsylvania, following the guidelines outlined in the PHIX implementation timetable, which will assess their readiness to integrate into the Commonwealth's PHIX program." PAeHI is the only named Advisory Organization to the PHIX program, as stipulated in the Governor's March '08 Executive Order creating the PHIX, and PAeHI was grateful for the opportunity to assist.

HIE SUSTAINABILITY WHITE PAPER

In a project approved by the PAeHI Board in May, PAeHI has been requested to research HIE financing options and make recommendations regarding potential options for the sustainability of an HIE in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The objectives of the project include conducting the necessary research and analysis of HIE financing options to: 1) Develop a framework for discussing financial sustainability models for HIE stakeholders, governing bodies, and government agencies and 2) Set the stage for establishing a decision making process around financial sustainability. Base deliverables will be an Executive Summary and White Paper. A consulting firm has been engaged to assist PAeHI BAT, HIE and Policy Committee members with this project. Work is well-underway and is expected to conclude in October 2010.

All Committee Event, August 25, 2010

Thank you to the nearly 100 PAeHI members and guests who participated in last month's All Committee event, the best attended summer event we've ever hosted! Special thanks to all our speakers and to our sponsor, AT&T, for their contributions. Please visit our blog at <http://paehi.wordpress.com> for more information on what transpired.

Upcoming PAeHI Events

It is a busy fall with many exciting events planned. PAeHI is sponsoring two of them in October and November, in addition to our next All Committee event which is scheduled for November 17th.

Until then, thank you for all you do to help ***Move Healthcare Forward in PA!***

Sharon L. Dorogy

Chair, PAeHI Board of Directors and
Director of Information Systems
The Children's Institute
(412) 420-2397
sdo@the-institute.org

State Outlook/News

Medical Societies Hosting EMR Event in Philadelphia

From Physicians News, September 9, 2010

In support of physicians who are interested in learning more about Electronic Health Records incentive and value, The Delaware County and Philadelphia County Medical Societies will co-hosting an informational event Wednesday, September 29th from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Philadelphia County Medical Society to explore the incentives for adopting and utilizing technology, and achieving meaningful use; and the broader value of electronic health records. For more information, or to attend, please call 215-563-5343, ext. 113 or email stat@philamedsoc.org.

For the full text of this article, please visit www.PhysiciansNews.com.

Update - New State HIMSS Chapter

In July, after over a year of statewide outreach and communications and engagement with both state chapters (Western PA and Delaware Valley), the national office of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) gave formal approval for PA to begin formation of a new Central PA HIMSS chapter! Organizing activities are underway, including selection of the initial chapter leadership team. If you would like more information or are interested in joining, serving as a sponsor or Board member, please contact Mark Stevens at mstevens@paehi.org.

Federal Outlook/News

Meaningful Use Final Rule Released

From by admin at Integritas, Inc. Blog, July 13, 2010

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today released a final rule that defines the minimum requirements that providers must meet to qualify for "meaningful

use” (MU) of electronic health records (EHRs), to qualify for payments under ARRA. ONC announced a final rule that establishes the required “meaningful use” capabilities that EHRs must meet to qualify as a “certified EMR” under ARRA.

The CMS MU final rule offers greater flexibility than did the interim final rule with respect to meeting and reporting to demonstrate meaningful use. The final rule divides the MU objectives into a “core group” of required objectives and a “menu set” of objectives from which providers may choose any five to implement in 2011-2012. This gives providers some latitude to pick their own path toward full EHR implementation and meaningful use ...

For the full text of this article, please visit: www.integritas.com/blog

Healthcare IT leaders praise appointment of CMS chief

From Bernie Monegain, Editor, Healthcare IT News, July 08, 2010

WASHINGTON – Visionary or worst choice? President Obama's recess appointment of Harvard Medical School professor Donald Berwick, MD, to lead the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid is drawing praise from healthcare IT leaders across the country even as his detractors paint him as a champion for socialism and healthcare rationing.

"Dr. Berwick's passion, intellect, and perseverance make him a perfect person to head up CMS," said Paul Tang, MD, an internist and vice president, chief medical information officer at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation in Palo Alto, Calif. Tang also serves as vice chair of the federal Health IT Policy Committee...

For a full text of the article, please visit:

<http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/healthcare-it-leaders-praise-appointment-cms-chief>

ONC names first two EHR certification bodies

From dmanos, Healthcare IT News, 08/31/2010

The Certification Commission for Health Information Technology (CCHIT) and the Drummond Group are the first to pass government muster as authorized to test and certify electronic health record systems to qualify for meaningful use incentives under the stimulus package. There are more to come.

The announcement by the Office of the National Coordinator of these Authorized Testing and Certification Bodies (ONC-ATCBs) means that EHR vendors can now begin to have their products certified as meeting criteria to support meaningful use, a key step in the national initiative to encourage adoption and effective use of EHRs by America's health care providers, ONC officials said...

For the full text of the article, please visit: <http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/onc->

HHS Proposes Tougher Privacy Protections Under HIPAA

Proposed changes to the HIPAA privacy regulations would expand patients' rights to access their information and restrict certain types of disclosures of protected health information to health plans, according to InformationWeek...

For the full text of this article, please visit:

http://www.informationweek.com/news/healthcare/security-privacy/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=225702783&cid=RSSfeed_IWK_News

Vendors project bright future for HIE market

From Patty Enrado, Special Projects Editor, Healthcare IT News, August 17, 2010

With states either submitting or receiving approval from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT of their strategic and operational plans for statewide HIEs, the HIE market is booming for vendors.

For the full text of this article, please visit: http://www.cfmediaview.com/lp1.aspx?v=7_64030810_4862_8

California to Launch Largest U.S Telehealth Network

From Molly Merrill, Associate Editor, Healthcare IT News, 08/18/2010

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and U.S. Chief Technology Officer Aneesh Chopra joined a diverse group of statewide healthcare and technology agencies on August 16 at the UC Davis Cancer Center in Sacramento to launch the California Telehealth Network (CTN), which is set to be the largest in the nation.

The network is the result of a \$30 million joint funding effort between the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF), the California HealthCare Foundation, UnitedHealthcare, the National Coalition for Healthcare Integration, the University of California and other private and public entities...

For the full text of the article, please visit: http://www.cfmediaview.com/lp1.aspx?v=7_64100294_4868_7

Few hospitals would meet EHR standards: Report

Most U.S. hospitals couldn't meet the federal government's Meaningful Use standards and qualify for subsidy payments for electronic health-record systems under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, according to a report published in June 2010 in the policy journal Health Affairs...

For a full text of the article, please visit

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/vol29/issue6/index.dtl>

Industry News

Siemens hires John Glaser to lead health IT division, updates Soarian

From Neil Versel, FierceHealthIT, June 28, 2010

Siemens Healthcare scored a major coup by hiring Partners HealthCare System CIO John Glaser to be CEO of the company's Health Services Business Unit. In that capacity, Glaser will head up the global healthcare IT business for Erlangen, Germany-based Siemens, effective Aug. 21.

"Dr. Glaser is regarded as one of the world's most influential experts on healthcare information technology, and it is a great privilege for me to welcome him to Siemens Healthcare," Tom Miller, CEO of the Siemens Healthcare Sector Workflow & Solutions Division, said in a company statement..

For the full text of this article, please visit: <http://www.fiercehealthit.com/story/siemens-hires-john-glaser-lead-health-it-division-updates-soarian/2010-06-28>

Ingenix buys Axolotl

From Matthew Holt, TheHealthcareBlog.com, August 16, 2010

Ingenix, the arms dealer that's been supplying all sides in the health care information war for the past decade or so, built itself up by buying lots of little companies in the data analytics space. Now it's repeating the effort in the Health Information tools space. First it bought Caretracker (actually the company may have had a different name when it bought it, but that's the name now). It's a Web-based EMR for smaller practices (a sector with lots of Federal dollars attached). Then it bought Picis, a company that offers software that runs ORs, EDs and other high acuity inpatient sites (another recipient of lots of Medicare dollars). Today it bought Axolotl, one of the vendors that's biggest in the emerging (and constantly confusing) Health Information Exchange marketplace. Yet another place that lots of Federal dollars via ONC are going...

For the full text of the article, please visit the August 16th Entry at <http://www.thehealthcareblog.com>.

EHR market projected to double by 2012

From bmongain, Healthcare IT News, 08/30/2010

The U.S. ambulatory EHR market, which was at \$1.3 billion in 2009, is forecast to reach \$2.6 billion in 2012, according to new analysis from research firm Frost & Sullivan...

For the full text of this article, please visit: http://www.cfmediaview.com/lp1.aspx?v=7_64961114_4909_9

AHIMA Names Sheridan President-Elect

From Andis Robeznieks, *Modern Healthcare.com*, July 28, 2010



Patty Thierry Sheridan, president of the Chicago-based health information management consulting and staffing firm Care Communications, has been elected president-elect of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) and will assume that post Jan. 1, 2011.

Before being promoted to president of Care Communications in 2004, Sheridan, 49, held the positions of vice president of operations and chief information officer...

For the full text of the article, please visit:

<http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20100728/NEWS/100729941#>

Guest Article: *Wellspan Health*

Connecting a Community

How a health system in south central Pennsylvania is providing innovative options to independent community physicians in two counties to adopt EHR technology, achieve Meaningful Use, and collaborate to improve health outcomes for patients.

By: Carla Allison, CMPE, Jed Batchelder, CPHIMS and Mark J. Jacobs, MHA, CPHIMS, FHIMSS, August 23, 2010

Introduction

WellSpan Health is a critical care community-based, not-for-profit integrated health system serving the greater region of Adams-York County and is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the people it serves.

In 2007, recognizing the opportunity provided by the passage of the Stark Exception and Anti-Kickback Safe Harbors, WellSpan Health formed the eCare Office Managed Services Organization (MSO) to help independent physicians adopt an Electronic Health Record (EHR). With cost as a chief barrier to the adoption of EHRs, especially among small physician practices, WellSpan's goal was to connect these practices and create a true community health record. To accomplish this, WellSpan extended their Allscripts™ Enterprise EHR to the physicians in the community.

Today, independent community physicians as well as Wellspan physicians work exclusively from a fully shared patient record and update the same medication, allergy and problem list. Instead of mailing a consult note, any physician using the community health record can send an electronic task to a referring provider to review details of a visit. Coordinating a surgical procedure, a process that could take more than two weeks

in the pre-connected world, now happens in less than an hour as a primary care physician and specialist use tasking to communicate in the context of the patient record.

Along Comes Meaningful Use

More than a decade of planning has passed since the Institute of Medicine's crossing the Quality Chasm report defined patient-centered care. On July 13, 2010, the Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology announced the final rule on Meaningful Use for EHR certification under the 2009 HITECH Act's incentive program for physicians.

The main components of Meaningful Use require physicians to use a certified EHR:

- In a meaningful manner (e.g.: e-Prescribing)
- For electronic exchange of health information to improve quality of health care
- To submit clinical quality and other measures

The legislation provides incentives to eligible providers who meet HITECH requirements and is the largest overhaul to Medicare and Medicaid since the 1960's. The intent is to set the stage for physicians to begin capturing "structured data" at the point of care versus "unstructured data" in a paper chart. Structured data refers to data that can be identified and used by an EHR system. Now that the final Meaningful Use definitions are in place, both WellSpan and its MSO are ready to deliver clinical workflows and reporting that is required to meet Meaningful Use and position eligible physicians to receive stimulus funding as part of HITECH. Physicians meeting HITECH's requirements will be eligible for an incentive bonus that will be paid out in increments over five years, beginning in 2011. This incentive is quite substantial. Physicians are eligible to receive up to \$44,000 from Medicare or \$63,000 from Medicaid. However, to receive the government subsidies, physicians must make a significant personal outlay on the purchase and implementation of an EHR...

For the full text of this new and highly-acclaimed white paper is available at:
<http://www.paehi.org/files/documents/WellSpan White Paper September 2010.pdf>

PAeHI Welcomes New Members!

Advanced Data Systems Corporation
AT&T
BluePrint Information Strategies, LLC
Hahnemann Hospital
Holy Spirit Hospital
Gene Spirito (individual)

PENNSYLVANIA RECS - UPDATE

PA REACH East and West Regional Extension Centers



The Quality Insights of Pennsylvania partnership has been awarded a grant of up to \$43 million to establish Regional Extension and Assistance Centers for HIT (REACH) in Eastern and Western Pennsylvania. The centers are called PA REACH East and PA REACH West. The grant funding will be used to assist primary care providers adopt and effectively use electronic medical records. In total, the Regional Extension Centers will support approximately

8700 priority primary care providers (small practices and those serving safety-net populations), achieving meaningful use of EHRs and enabling statewide health information exchange. The Regional Extension Centers will each serve a defined geographic area for coverage across the Commonwealth. The centers will support health care providers in each region with direct, individualized, and on-site technical assistance in:

- Selecting a certified EHR product that offers best value for the providers' needs;
- Achieving effective implementation of a certified EHR product;
- Enhancing clinical and administrative workflows to optimally leverage an EHR system's potential to improve quality and value of care, including patient experience as well as outcome of care; and
- Observing and complying with applicable legal, regulatory, professional, and ethical requirements to protect the integrity, privacy, and security of patients' health information.



Quality Insights has partnered with several organizations to provide the technical assistance and outreach needed to accomplish our goal. Approved partners in the East at this time include the PAeHI, Pennsylvania Medical Society, Pennsylvania Medical Society Consultants (PMSCO), Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC), Crozer Keystone Health Network, and Thomas Jefferson University (TJU). Additional approval is pending for Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) and Lancaster General Hospital (LGH) to be added as partners.



In the western region, our partners will be Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative (PRHI), University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), PAeHI, Pennsylvania Medical Society, and Pennsylvania Medical Society Consultants (PMSCO).

PA REACH just completed nine (9) public outreach sessions held over the summer throughout PA. Interested providers who were not able to attend one of those sessions should go to

www.pareacheast.org or www.pareachwest.org to complete and submit an interest form. These projects are made possible through a grant from the Office of the National Coordinator with Department of Health and Human Services support.

New Member Profile – AT&T



We get it. Patient care is your business. The healthcare environment today is dynamic and ever changing. From improving quality of care, to complying with government regulations, to reducing cost, the industry is facing many challenges. AT&T has been serving the healthcare industry for decades and understands the unique challenges facing healthcare providers today. AT&T is committed to serving the technology needs across the continuum of care - from patients to physicians to providers. We have developed healthcare services and solutions, and the right strategic alliances to help support your business goals.

AT&T Healthcare Community Online (HCO) enables secure exchange and sharing of patient health data across multiple health systems. It is a cloud-based health information exchange (HIE) and portal that integrates patient records/data from multiple sources into a single patient view, providing real-time access for physicians to patient information and eHealth applications.

AT&T HCO allows healthcare providers, vendors and government agencies to save time and money by delivering the ability to utilize their existing Health IT infrastructure and integrating that with new applications to enable community-wide health information exchange of electronic medical records. Our vision is to make the best use of technology to help transform the delivery of care by connecting all members of the healthcare community – improving access to services, reducing costs and ultimately improving patient outcomes and the quality of life for healthcare providers and their patients.

HCO Benefits:

- Virtually anytime, anywhere access to patient information and eHealth applications.
- Integrates mobile health and telehealth applications for remote diagnosis and care.
- Supports compliance with HIPAA regulations with strong security measures.
- Single sign-on, federated authentication with pre-integrated applications.

For more information on the AT&T HCO solution, contact us today online, or contact Anthony R. Sewell, Director of Sales for HCO – HIE, North Eastern Region, Office 412-325-9228, Cell 412-956-5562, e-mail: AS0158@att.com.

Please also access this video:

http://www.corp.att.com/healthcare/resources/video/hco_video.html?GUID=ec24d139-

Upcoming Events

September 22-24 - NJ/DVHIMSS Regional Meeting, Atlantic City
September 23 – PA REACH and PA Medical Society Meaningful Use Webinar
September 25–30th - 82nd AHIMA Convention and Exhibit, Orlando, FL
October 21-22 – “Crossing the HIT Meaningful Divide”, Valley Forge Convention Center
November 3-4 – HIMSS Virtual conference & Expo
November 16 – 2nd - Annual Canada/US eHealth Summit, Philadelphia
November 17 - PAeHI All Committee Event, Harrisburg
February 20-24, 2011 HIMSS Annual Conference and Exhibition, Orlando, FL

Announcements



Enabling Healthcare Transformation through Information Technology

September 22-24th, 2010
Caesar's Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, NJ

A regional meeting sponsored jointly by
the New Jersey and Delaware Valley HIMSS chapters
For program agenda, registration information please visit: <http://www.dvhimss.org>

"Crossing the Infrastructure & Technology Meaningful Divide"

October 21-22, 2010
Valley Forge Convention Center

The HITECH Act seeks to improve American health care delivery and patient care through an unprecedented investment in health information technology. The provisions of HITECH are specifically designed to work together to provide the necessary assistance and technical support to providers, enable coordination and alignment within and among

states, establish connectivity to the public health community in case of emergencies, and assure the workforce is properly trained and equipped to be meaningful users of Electronic Health Records.

This symposium is a “must attend” opportunity for Health and University Life Sciences Information Technology professionals from diverse sectors, disciplines, and perspectives to join together for the first time in an engaging and informative structured symposium that is collaboratively designed around conversation on the subject of crossing the healthcare infrastructure technology meaningful divide.

Registration is open at www.7x24exchangedelval.org, and a program agenda is available at: <http://www.paehi.org/files/documents/EVENT.pdf>



THE 2nd ANNUAL CANADA-U.S. eHEALTH SUMMIT

Healthcare & The Economy: Strategies & Tools To Support A High Performance Delivery System For Health & Wellness

INVITED KEYNOTE: Dr. Donald Berwick, Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Please save the date to join Canadian and US issues experts to learn and discuss:

- **MODELS FOR CONTROLLING COSTS AND IMPROVING QUALITY - ACOS (ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATIONS) AND MEDICAL HOMES**
Forging partnerships between patients, their families and caregivers and physicians and payers to create a continuous, comprehensive care model for all stages of life from pediatrics to geriatrics; acute care; chronic care; preventive services; and end of life, which is secure, accessible, compassionate, and culturally effective. Canadian health officials weigh in with appraisals of their own health system.
- **MEDS & EDS**
Rob Wonderling, President, Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
How the Greater Philadelphia region can leverage its world class assets in medicine, education, life sciences and pharmaceuticals to become a global leader in health

information technology, How Ontario's MaRS Discovery District found a better way to capture the commercial potential of Toronto's \$1 billion in annual science and technology research spending.

- **LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO EMPOWER WELLNESS**

Information and communications technologies have helped to revolutionize business; can they do the same for health? Examples from Canada and the region on how Telemedicine, Telehealth and mobile communication devices are being deployed to improve outcomes and overcome disparities in healthcare delivery.

Tuesday, November 16th, 2010
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
The Union League of Philadelphia
140 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

All PAeHI members will receive a \$25 discount!
Invitation and formal agenda, registration information to follow...

For questions or sponsorship information, please contact:
Vincent Finn, (267) 207-2721 or Vincent.Finn@international.gc.ca

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