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A Look Back



A LOOK BACK AT 2014

As we look back at 2014, we want to thank the medical community for participating in Health Information Technology innovations that have resulted in better electronic communication and exchange.

Below are some accomplishments.



Ohio's CliniSync HIE continues to connect

- 103 hospitals are live or in the production environment
- The remaining 40 will go live during the first half of 2015
- 269 practices are receiving results and reports from hospitals
- More than 40 hospitals have been integrated with "Direct" messaging
- More than 200 practices are using WebDirect
- Direct messaging has allowed providers to transmit Transitions of Care documents (CCDAs), allowing them to reach Stage 2 Meaningful Use

Long-term care joins CliniSync Community



Left behind by the Meaningful Use Incentive program, long-term and acute-care facilities now are getting involved in electronic communications and exchange. Some don't yet have electronic health records, but that's changing.

More than **230 facilities** have contracted with CliniSync so **they can electronically receive discharge summaries and information on patients who are transitioning from the hospital to one of their facilities**. In large part, that connection occurs through Direct secure messaging. In the past, this occurred through the delivery of paper files and faxing. This new and efficient way to communicate is being embraced by staff and administrators in these facilities.

In 2015, this growth will spread to the hospice and home health communities so that those who care for patients at home will be electronically connected, allowing the caregiver to have the most up-to-date patient health information possible.



Our Regional Extension Center remains first in the nation

We know that all of our readers may not be OSU Buckeye Fans; however, in light of the recent National Football Championship Game; you may want to look at the rankings of the top 10 RECs in the nation – coincidence? **We don't think so. The Ohio State Buckeyes (oh, we mean The Ohio Health Information Partnership) is ranked #1 and the Oregon Ducks (oops, did it again, the Oregon REC) is ranked #10! What can we say about all things O-H-I-O!**

Our goal under the federal Regional Extension Center program was to assist 6,000 primary care physicians with the adoption and implementation of electronic health records as well as to help them reach Meaningful Use Stage 1. To date, 5,968 have achieved all three milestones – the highest number in the nation! We are on target to reach our goal of 100 percent by the end of January. Thanks to all of the practices and those providing assistance for your hard work!

Regional Extension Center	# of Providers
1. Ohio Health Information Partnership	5,960

2. NJ Healthcare HIT Center	5,051
3. NYC Reach	4,105
4. NY eHealth Collaborative	3,899
5. Michigan M-CEITA	3,616
6. Georgia HITEC	3,282
7. REACH (MN and ND)	3,282
8. California Health Information Partnership (North)	3,058
9. California Health Information Partnership (South)	2,963
10. O-HITEC (OHITREC) Oregon	2,807



Feb. 11 HIT Day at Ohio Statehouse

Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) create secure connections so hospitals, physicians and other clinicians can electronically communicate with one another and share their patients' health information. Along with CliniSync in Hilliard, there is a regional HIE in Cincinnati that serves southeast Ohio.

"While legislators understand the importance of making health information accessible between healthcare organizations, they may not realize the barriers and nuances involved that make exchanging patient records challenging," says Scott Mash, vice president of the [Central and Southern Ohio HIMSS Chapter](#) and operations manager at the CliniSync HIE.

"The goal of this gathering of healthcare technology specialists is to advocate for mechanisms, ranging from education to regulations, intended to engage healthcare providers, insurance payers and the patient," Mash says.

The 8th Annual Ohio Healthcare Information Technology Day will be held Feb. 11 starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Statehouse Atrium where HIT leaders and advocates will advise legislators on the latest innovations and progress.

The event is also sponsored by the **Ohio Health Information Management Association**, the **College of Healthcare Information Management Executives** and the **Northern Ohio HIMSS** chapter. The sponsors represent more than 5,000 individuals who want to improve health care and lower associated costs for all Ohioans.

Speakers during the event include **Rex Plouck** of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation, **Dan Paoletti**, CEO of the Ohio Health Information Partnership/CliniSync; and **Craig Brammer**, CEO of Healthbridge. CIO/CMIO. Panelists include **Dr. Robert White**, CMIO of Cleveland Clinic; **Alex Rodriguez**, CIO of St. Elizabeth Medical Center; and **Gary Ginter**, CIO of Premier Health Systems.

The agenda and registration for the Ohio Healthcare Information Technology Day event are available at <http://csohio.himsschapter.org/Events/>



Have an MU mock audit conducted

Early in the New Year many providers will be completing the Meaningful Use attestation process. It's important that these providers and their organizations be prepared for the possibility of a Meaningful Use audit by performing a thorough mock audit. Proper preparation can save a provider or hospital money, as it can help protect or defend incentive payments in addition to preventing payment adjustments. It also can potentially save your job!

Figliozzi & Company conducts the audits on eligible professionals (EPs) and eligible hospitals/critical access hospitals (EHs) for CMS. Approximately 5 percent of attestations will be randomly selected for an audit, along with those that are flagged through an algorithm designed to look for erroneous reporting such as varying denominators on measures that share unique patients. While CMS has posted a general tipsheet regarding auditable defense and audit preparation, our experience has shown that audits can become much more detailed and focused.

“In the eyes of the auditors, inadequate documentation is viewed the same as non-compliance” said Scott Mash, who serves as one of the Meaningful Use experts for the Ohio Health Information Partnership. “The 2014 reporting year presents unique documentation requirements, especially for organizations making use of the flexible reporting option.”

Ideally, mock audits should take place immediately after the attestation process is complete. The Meaningful Use team at the Ohio Health Information Partnership has extensive experience in both performing mock audits and assisting with responding to an actual audit. Our mock audit service verifies that your organization's attestation and retained documentation meets the necessary requirements and mimics the CMS audit process through onsite interviews and documentation reviews at a reasonable cost.

If you're interested in engaging our Meaningful Use team for a mock audit, contact Scott Mash (614-541-2294, smash@ohionline.org) or Cathy Costello (614-664-2607, ccostello@ohionline.org). Additional information regarding mock audits can be found on our website [Meaningful Mock Audit, Better Now Than Later](#).



Connectathon interoperability testing event Jan. 26-30

We are excited to announce that the **2015 IHE North American Connectathon Conference** will be held in Cleveland, OH, Jan 26-30. The [Connectathon Conference](#) is a one-day, educational and networking event built upon the IHE North American (NA) Connectathon 2015: Health IT's largest standards-based interoperability testing event that is accelerating adoption in North America and globally.

To register for the event, please go to <http://www.iheusa.org/resources-education-connectathonconference.aspx>

To watch a video of a previous Connectathon, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozHb9gm1nws&feature=youtu.be>

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Our mailing address is:

3455 Mill Run Dr.
Suite 315
Hilliard, OH 43026
www.CliniSync.org
(614) 664-2600

For questions call or email
Dottie Howe
Director of Communications
dhowe@ohionline.org
(614) 664-2605



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