

The Delaware Health Information Network Plays Leadership Role in Advancing the National Health Information Network

September 22, 2008—In October 2007, The Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) was one of the nine initial health information exchanges (HIEs) selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Health Information Network Trial Implementations. Since that time, DHIN and its partner Medicity, Inc. have played an active leadership role in collaborating with other NHIN contract recipients across the nation to help create a working national health information network infrastructure.

“Delaware’s role in the National Health Information Network’s trial implementation demonstrates our distinction as a leader in health information exchange,” said Delaware Lt. Governor John C. Carney, Chair of the Delaware Health Care Commission, which oversees the Delaware Health Information Network. “We should all be proud of what we’ve accomplished with the DHIN. It is rewarding to see the hard work and dedication of so many in both the public and private sectors result in such tremendous progress. It’s another example of how Delawareans work well together and set the pace for the rest of the country.”

As the first fully operational state-wide health information exchange, DHIN established itself as a leader in building consensus among healthcare delivery organizations such as hospitals, health systems, and commercial laboratories, and a leader in using innovative technology solutions to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare for all healthcare stakeholders.

The DHIN and FEDCONNECT were the first HIEs to successfully establish a connection in support of the NHIN Trial Implementations and have since established successful connections with other NHIN participants, including, but not limited to, NYCLIX, CareSpark, New Mexico/Lovelace Foundation, West Virginia Health Information Network, and Wright State University.

“This is just further proof that our little state is making huge strides to help bring this country into the 21st century by harnessing health information technologies. I continue to support the Delaware Health Information Network and am excited to monitor its progress,” said US Senator Thomas R. Carper of Delaware.

As a technical requirement for participation in the NHIN Trial Implementations, DHIN and Medicity successfully completed twenty of twenty required NHIN test cases. DHIN and Medicity are now preparing to demonstrate the remaining NHIN Core Services -- Biosurveillance and Laboratory use cases -- in participation with NHIN and the Delaware Division of Public Health.

“The DHIN has been a true innovator in creating alignment among historically competitive healthcare organizations to improve patient care through better access to critical patient information across the state of Delaware. We believe this achievement with NHIN becomes a huge milestone toward establishing standards that will accelerate the adoption of health information exchange across the nation,” says Kipp Lassetter, MD, CEO of Medicity.

Medicity’s technology platform combined with its management and operational consulting services supports clinical interoperability and community health information exchange across the country.

This work will help improve patient safety, reduce the cost of healthcare, and improve patient convenience. Additionally,

these NHIN activities advance the nation toward the President's goal of most Americans having access to secure electronic health records by 2014, by creating a secure foundation for health information exchange that can follow Americans throughout their lives.

About DHIN

The Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) was established by the Delaware General Assembly in 1997 as a public instrumentality of the State to advance the creation of a statewide health information and electronic data interchange network for public and private use. It functions under the direction of the Delaware Health Care Commission. The DHIN is a public-private partnership, which provides the organizational infrastructure to support a clinical information sharing utility. For more information please visit www.dhin.org

About Medicity

With a single point of access to multiple data sources within and across healthcare enterprises, Medicity, Inc. empowers patients, providers and Health Plans with essential healthcare information, resulting in improved clinical workflow, enhanced patient safety and reduced costs. Medicity, Inc. serves more than 1,800 healthcare organizations globally and has been connecting healthcare since 1998. For more information please visit www.medicity.com

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