

## Component 11: Configuring EHRs

### Unit 2: Meaningful Use of the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Lecture 2

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## Health Information Exchange

- The mobilization of healthcare information electronically
- Within organizations, between organizations, between systems, across regions (RHIO's), between regions, and ultimately nationally (NHIN)
- The HIE vision is one where health information will flow seamlessly to the person and place needing the information, at the time it is required, in a manner that is secure and preserves patient privacy

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## Interoperability

- IEEE defines interoperability as “the ability of two or more systems or components to exchange information and to use the information that has been exchanged”
- In the discussion of EHRs, the focus will be on the technical aspects of interoperability, but social, political and organizational factors will also be important in achieving HIE.

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## HIE Functionality

- Push Technology- Clinical data is delivered directly to the provider's patient record system of choice - EHR/EMR, fax, email.
- Pull Technology- Authorized providers can query a patient's community record for specific information to support the patient's care - diagnoses, medications and drug sensitivities, X-rays, etc.
- Push and Pull – direct two-way communications for ePrescribing, referrals, consultation, public health reporting, orders etc.

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## HIE and Meaningful Use

- The goals of HITECH are rooted in improving individual health, healthcare, and public health. All HITECH rules, regulations, incentives, programs, etc. are linked to one of five underlying principles that guide our understanding of meaningful use.
- The interest in HIE is driven by the recognition that it is critical in implementing Electronic Health Record systems that will deliver on the meaningful use goals.

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## HIE improves quality, safety and efficiency

- Automatic checking of online database for drug-drug interactions, adverse reactions, etc.
- Reduced redundant testing because information not quickly available from other provider or system; reduce tests that may be invasive and with risk to patient
- Reduced error and cost from data being manually entered into EHRs multiple times

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## HIE supports engaging patients in their care

- Communication of personal health information between patient and provider can occur through multiple mediums.
- Automate opportunity for patient to update or correct inaccurate information.
- Push technology can automate timely reminders and alerts on medications, testing, public health & environmental health risks and deliver them cost effectively.

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## HIE Supports Increased coordination of care

- Facilitates sharing information required by multiple providers in the care of the patient
- Permits the use of integrated electronic tools for scheduling and communicating
- HIE allows the patients health information to follow him/her throughout the health care system.

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## HIE helps improve the health status of the population

- HIE enables the flow of information between systems and facilitates the aggregation of information from different systems.
  - Current and comprehensive information on population health issues to identify outreach targets.
  - Early identification of emerging public health issues
  - Early identification and response to emergency situations.

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## HIE Ensures privacy and security

- Encryption of for secure transmission of health information between providers
- Secure backup of information by easily duplicating large amounts of data at other geographical locations at a low cost
- HIE supports secure protocols.

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