

NYeCNews

VOLUME 118 : NOVEMBER 16, 2020

2020 Gala & Awards: The (Virtual) Celebration is Only Weeks Away!



It's hard to believe that we're just two weeks away from the 2020 Gala & Awards!

On December 1st, we invite you to join us for a virtual evening of celebration and thanks hosted by NY1's Cheryl Wills. This year's distinguished honorees include Montefiore Medicine President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Philip Ozuah and NewYork-Presbyterian Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Laura Forese. We'll be honoring the accomplishments of these innovative and groundbreaking leaders advancing healthcare across New York State, as well as the irreplaceable everyday heroes who have made an immeasurable difference in everyone's health and safety as they have battled the COVID-19 pandemic.

Attendees will also be treated to an accompaniment of lively entertainment from dynamic jazz band, The Revisionists. Led by trumpeter and arranger Danny Jonokuchi, The Revisionists will be joining us at the Gala to help remind that just because this year's event is virtual, it doesn't mean that we can't enjoy world-class live music and entertainment. Danny, a passionate musician, writer, and producer, has had his arrangements performed by numerous acclaimed artists including Lady Gaga and Grammy-nominated vocalist Nicole Zuraitis.

Your attendance and support of the Gala & Awards is a great way to express your support for the [Statewide Health Information Network of New York](#) and the crucial work our state and health information exchange does to improve care delivery and patient outcomes. Join us at this year's virtual Gala & Awards and help show your support for healthcare in New York.

[Learn more about our honorees and host](#)

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SHIN-NY Spotlight Video: The Eddy Uses HIE & Hixny to Provide Better Care for Patients



Sharing perspectives and examples of how providers use and find value in the SHIN-NY and health information exchange is critically important to improving and advancing the network for all participants.

NYeC and Hixny sat down with representatives from The Eddy & Community Hospice, part the Community Services Division of St. Peter's Health Partners, to talk about how they utilize their connection to the SHIN-NY through Hixny, especially in the era of COVID-19, to care for patients in their homes. Hear from Michelle Mazzacco, VP, Community Services Division, and Nori Giacchetta, RN, Clinical Director of Community Hospice, as they talk about their experience with the SHIN-NY, health information exchange, and the value it brings their providers, staff, and patients at the link below.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Successful NCQA Pilot Program Proves Utility of QE Data for HEDIS Reporting

NYeC, in partnership with the New York State Department of Health and the National Committee for Quality Assurance, worked with three of the state's Qualified Entities (QEs) to lead a groundbreaking Data Aggregator Validation pilot program.

The pilot was designed to directly respond to the needs of health plans to reduce administrative burdens on providers and plans associated with HEDIS reporting. It focused on developing protocols and processes to evaluate data received by entities known as data aggregators, which include health information exchanges. The pilot resulted in certification of the data aggregator-generated output files for distribution to health plans and inclusion in HEDIS reporting. The protocols and program will serve as a basis for subsequent implementation of a national certification program to standardize electronic clinical data for use in these types of quality and performance measurement activities.

HEALTHeLINK, Hixny, and HealthConnections were the three QEs that were selected to participate in this pilot. All three successfully completed the pilot program, becoming the first in the nation to receive this certification, valid for one year, allowing them to share data with health plans for HEDIS reporting from their approved data sources.

The pilot was a great success and NYeC looks forward to further opportunities like this to further prove and refine the ability of the SHIN-NY to support quality measurement and other clinical informatics activities.

Read more at the button below.

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HANYS Guest Post: Digital Patient Engagement Increasingly Important



This article is courtesy of HANYS, a Platinum sponsor of the 2020 Gala & Awards.

Thomas Hallisey, Director, Health Information Technology Strategy, Healthcare Association of New York State

The adoption of digital patient care accelerated rapidly in 2020. Healthcare organizations ramped up digital services as quickly as possible to fill gaps left when in-person care and communication were greatly limited by the COVID-19 pandemic.

When the pandemic ends, patients will continue to have great expectations for digital solutions. Consumers will expect a smooth, familiar experience regardless of what types of services are provided and whether they are virtual or in-person. In the post-COVID-19 world, it will be critically important to fully integrate these tools into a comprehensive strategy that digitally engages your patients — and keeps them engaged — while seamlessly supporting your organization's operations.

Many start-ups and established companies are doing a myriad of interesting things to help healthcare providers manage digital care and patient engagement. With so many options, it can be challenging to assess what will be most useful to your organization and how it can be integrated with your day-to-day operations and the tools you already use.

To aid you along that path, HANYS will host a discussion on November 18th with leaders from innovative healthcare technology companies. We invite you to join us to hear about digital solutions to pressing healthcare issues and best practices for pursuing a digital strategy. Michael Dowling, President and CEO, Northwell Health, will provide the keynote address.

Learn more about HANYS' Healthcare Innovative Technology Summit and register online at the button below.

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NYeC Submits Comments on USCDI Version 2

On October 27, NYeC submitted recommendations and supportive comments to the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) for the inclusion of three new data elements in the next version of the US Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) — a baseline set of data classes and elements required for nationwide health information exchange. The USCDI ultimately replaces the data set currently exchanged, the Common Clinical Dataset, as required by the Cures Act.

NYeC's comments supported the addition of Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation to the USCDI Version 2, both of which are in widespread use today and provide clinical value for LGBTQIA individuals. Further, NYeC recommended the inclusion of Provider Telecom Information, which can capture multiple methods for contacting a provider. Capturing this information is critical for the routing of patient event notifications in support of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid's (CMS') interoperability rule.

NYeC is also proud to be an active supporter in the Gravity Project Community Collaborative, a national collaborative to advance interoperable social determinants of health. The Gravity Project submitted detailed comments to ONC on the USCDI v2, reflecting input from over 1,200 community members.

To read detailed comments submitted to ONC, including by NYeC and the Gravity Project, click the button below.

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HEALTHeLINK Named CPC+ Data Aggregator by CMS



HEALTHeLINK has been named the Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) data aggregator for the Greater Buffalo Region by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CPC+ is a national advanced primary care medical home model initiative that aims to strengthen primary care through regionally based multi-payer payment reform and care delivery transformation.

“HEALTHeLINK has consistently demonstrated expertise in aggregating clinical data from health care entities across the community and working with that data to help health care providers most efficiently and effectively treat their patients,” said Dan Porreca, Executive Director, HEALTHeLINK. “With claims data from our local health plans and now CMS for Medicare Fee-for-Service (FFS) beneficiaries added on top of the clinical data already a part of HEALTHeLINK, we are in a unique position to provide a comprehensive patient quality of care reporting capability. Having the most current and comprehensive health information where it’s needed, when it’s needed, leads to better patient care.”

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Bronx RHIO Supports Integrated Care for Kids Project (BE-InCK NY)



The Bronx RHIO is a member of the partnership council for Bronx Equity — Integrated Care for Kids (BE-InCK NY), a CMS-funded project of the New York State Department of Health and Montefiore Medical Center. The project grant funds a seven-year data-driven effort by the NYS DOH to improve children’s health statuses in eight key Bronx zip codes.

The project aims to model and implement integrated care networks and promote care management for children through creating a close partnership between health care providers, community-based organizations, health homes for children, city agencies and managed care plans.

Bronx RHIO will be providing data aggregation and analysis services to BE-InCK which include adding a variety of new data sources for access by BE-InCK partners through the RHIO. It is also leveraging collaboration between the Bronx RHIO and Healthix, who will be sending data to the Bronx RHIO from its members participating in the project.

Read more at the button below.

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Hixny VIDEO: The Effects of COVID-19 — Views from Across Healthcare



Recently, Hixny facilitated a conversation between three providers about how they see the pandemic, and the preventive behaviors tied to it (e.g., quarantine, physical distancing), impacting the health of individuals at this time. Watch now at the button below.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Advantage Care DTC Succeeds with Healthix Alerts and Telehealth



Long Island-based Advantage Care Diagnostic and Treatment Center (DTC), a facility providing ambulatory health services, continued to offer its comforting, personalized patient experience — even throughout the pandemic.

Advantage Care credits Healthix' COVID-19 Alerts and the modifications allowing for verbal consent to deliver telehealth, as essential to the continuity of their medical and mental/behavioral health care services when in-person visits were limited. This organization received over a hundred COVID-19 Alerts on test results and accessed Healthix data through the telehealth workflow in as many times, during the peak of the outbreak.

“During the height of the pandemic, virtually 100 percent of visits were done via telehealth, and the COVID-19 Alerts rapidly notified providers of results,” Mary Fullam, RN, Clinical Nurse Manager.

Read more at the button below.

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Rochester RHIO Launches New Patient Query Portal for Providers



Rochester RHIO has launched Explore+, Your Patient Information Connection. Explore+ is an advanced clinical query portal that is flexible and responsive to the ever-evolving needs of Health Information Exchange (HIE) participants.

Explore+ went live in September with an innovative, intuitive interface that features better data characterization and improved options for authorized users to view clinical data. Users can view data by encounter, timeline or expression, a new feature for users.

“Rochester RHIO advances patient care through innovation and better access to health data a commitment that has earned us the reputation as an HIE pioneer since our founding more than a decade ago,” said Jill Eisenstein, CEO & President of Rochester RHIO. “The flexibility that we have achieved with the debut of Explore+ allows us to be more responsive to our community of partners across 14 counties, anticipating and meeting their needs more quickly, efficiently and effectively.”

Learn more at the button below.

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NYS OMH to Leverage HealthConnections as Hub for Statewide Data Sharing



HealthConnections and the Office of Mental Health (OMH) are in the process of completing a single connection that will initiate the bidirectional exchange of patient health information from 13 state-operated psychiatric centers (SOPCs) in upstate New York with the SHIN-NY.

HealthConnections will act as a single point of connection for this information to be shared among the statewide network and continue to ensure providers have optimally complete, comprehensive patient data available to them to improve care delivery. Learn more at the button below.

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EMS Agencies and Pharmacies Now Eligible for DEIP

Pharmacies and EMS agencies can connect to the SHIN-NY and offset their costs of connecting through the Data Exchange Incentive Program (DEIP).

The program has two milestone incentives for up to \$13,000. To complete the program, organizations must contribute a pre-defined set of data elements. Learn more about your eligibility and **enroll by January 31st, 2021** for the program at the button below.

For any other questions please email deip@nyhealth.org.

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Learning Opportunities

eCQM Overview

Date: Tuesday, December 2 at 11:30 am

Description: This presentation provides an overview of CQMs, strategies for choosing CQMs, and details on reporting requirements for the NY Medicaid EHR incentive program. It also includes the CQM requirements for other programs to demonstrate alignment.

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Eligible Providers have extended opportunity to Attest to Stage 3 Objectives

Eligible Providers take note! The final payment years (2020 and 2021) of the NY Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will offer an extended period within which to complete MEIPASS Attestations.

As of October 1st, Eligible Providers who have met all Meaningful Use Stage 3 criteria, gathered their data, and are ready to attest, may begin their Attestation before (Soft Opening) and through the Official MEIPASS attestation period. The Soft Opening functions in the same way as the official opening, with remediation and review processes that mirror what providers are used to.

For Payment Year 2020, Eligible Providers may attest any time from now through the Official MEIPASS closing date in early 2021. Keep in mind all criteria must be met:

- Payment for 2019 Attestation must have been received prior to participation in the Soft Opening
- All Stage 3 Objectives and their Measures must have been met or excluded from
- Reports and data are gathered for documentation
- The Security Risk Assessment has been completed prior to attestation

For additional Meaningful Use guidance and Attestation support, please contact the EP2 Program at EP2info@nyehealth.org.