



CHT Connectivity Conference: Accelerating Transformation through Health IT

October 18, 2005
The Mayflower
Washington, DC

The growing momentum of the health information technology movement can be seen across the country—from legislative proposals on Capitol Hill to health information exchanges from coast to coast. We are on the cusp of enormous change in health and healthcare, as industry stakeholders are coming together in hundreds of communities to connect and modernize our system to improve consumer health and reduce costs.

There are dozens of educational programs exploring the health IT movement and the concept of local and regional health information exchanges. This program will be different. Instead of high-level theory, the CHT Connectivity Conference will explore the nuts and bolts of effective strategies and tactics for connecting local and regional communities. This complimentary program will give more than 100 community leaders, technology experts, policymakers, and others the opportunity to hear from those who have been successful at fostering and building their community networks.

~The agenda is subject to change~

8:00am

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mike Raymer, Senior Vice President, IDX Systems Corporation

8:10am

Keynote Address

Health IT and Homeland Security: You Cannot have One without the Other

As we recover and rebuild in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, we must take this opportunity to move healthcare into the 21st century. We have seen that our current system cannot cope with an extreme disaster like Katrina, nor can it respond to a terrorist attack using weapons of mass destruction. An interconnected, community-wide system built upon electronic health records most certainly could. The current health information exchanges and regional networks are vital foundations upon which to build.

Newt Gingrich, Founder, Center for Health Transformation

8:30am – 10:15am

General Session

Connecting Your Community: Building the 21st Century Intelligent Health System

Hundreds of efforts across the country are under way to build local and regional healthcare networks. This session brings together health information technology leaders who have been successful at developing and building their networks and expanding digital capabilities across their communities to better facilitate the secure exchange of patient information.

Differences abound in geographic location, size, scope, sophistication, and stakeholder involvement. Speakers will share specific approaches to financing, protecting privacy and security, health management programs, and technical infrastructure.

Lori L. Hack, MBA, Executive Director, Health Technology Center

John L. Haughom, M.D., Senior Vice President, Healthcare Improvement Division, PeaceHealth

J. Marc Overhage, M.D., Ph.D., President and CEO, Indiana Health Information Exchange

Robert C. Steffel, Executive Director, Greater Cincinnati HealthBridge, Inc.

10:15am – 10:30am

Break

10:30am – 12:00pm

General Session

Successfully Engaging and Mobilizing your Community Leaders: Perspectives from State Leaders

From health insurance plans and physicians to state government and hospitals, buy in from all the stakeholders is vital to success. This session will explore how state leaders in Florida engaged, recruited, and mobilized the key stakeholders across the state to launch an ambitious healthcare network.

W. Michael Heekin, Chair, Governor's Health Information Infrastructure Advisory Board, State of Florida

Others TBD

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Lunch to be served in breakout sessions

12:30pm – 2:30pm

Moderated Breakout Discussions

Best Practices in Financing

Financing is critical to every business—local and regional healthcare networks are no different. The session will be a moderated discussion among the attendees to explore successful financing models for local and regional health information organizations. Key questions include: what is our business model? What are our start-up costs? How do we develop a sustainable model? Will our model work for both small and large participating organizations? What capital is available? Should we use financial incentives to recruit participants? Does financing influence the governance structure? How can we ensure that the value of what we build outweighs the cost?

Session Facilitator:

Keith W. Hepp, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Business Development, HealthBridge

Best Practices in Health Management

The key promise and payoff from a wired community is improving the quality of care—from reducing medical errors to real-time information at the point of care to monitoring chronic conditions. The session will be a moderated discussion among the attendees to explore how local and regional organizations have used health information technology to improve patient care. Key questions include: what specific health conditions can we improve through technology? How can we use our network to improve patient compliance and consumer health education? Will we have a reporting mechanism? What role can pay-for-performance programs play? How will we measure success in the community? What must be included to drive broad physician adoption for their patients?

Session Facilitator:

John L. Haughom, M.D., Senior Vice President, Healthcare Improvement Division, PeaceHealth

Best Practices in Interoperability and Infrastructure

Wiring a community means developing technologies that all stakeholders can share and exchange health and clinical information: hospitals, pharmacies, physicians, long-term care facilities, health plans, and consumers. How to connect all these players does this seem daunting—but it can be done. This session will examine how local and regional networks have succeeded in developing and deploying the right technologies for their communities. Key questions include: what is the scope of our network? What are the logistical and technical considerations to identify upfront? What role will the current discussions over standards play in our community? What are the pros and cons of centralized and decentralized data infrastructure? How can we use the Web as a starting point?

Session Facilitator:

J. Marc Overhage, M.D., Ph.D., President and CEO, Indiana Health Information Exchange

Best Practices in Privacy and Security

Your community effort must make privacy and security its top priority. If personal health information is not secure, if patient privacy is not adequately protected, the network is doomed to fail. The session will be a moderated discussion among the attendees to explore successful initiatives to protect privacy and secure patient data. Key questions include: who owns the data? How do we balance access and protection? What state and federal mandates must we deal with? Does HIPAA even allow us to share information? What technical systems must be included to properly backup the information?

Session Facilitator:

Lori L. Hack, MBA, Executive Director, Health Technology Center

2:30pm – 2:45pm

Break

2:45pm – 4:30pm

General Session

Open Forum on Best Practices—Reports on the Breakout Session Discussions

This closing general session will feature summary reports from the four breakout discussions. In addition to financing, health management, privacy/security, and technical infrastructure, attendees will have the opportunity to discuss any topic of their choosing.

4:30pm

Conference Adjourns