

Get Connected

To help you get connected to HIE, we encourage you to review the resources listed below:

Office of the National Coordinator for HIT
hhs.gov/healthit/

Agency for Health Research & Quality
healthit.ahrq.gov

*American Academy of Family Physicians Center
for Health Information Technology*
centerforhit.org

American Health Information Community
hhs.gov/healthit/community/background

American Health Information Management Association
ahima.org

American Medical Association
ama-assn.org

CCHIT 2008 Physician's Guide
cchit.org

CMS
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HIPAAGenInfo/>

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society
himss.org

RTI HISPC
privacysecurity.rti.org/



The Provider Education Toolkit *Encouraging Health Care Providers to Get Connected!*

Electronic Health Information

It's Secure, Private and Accessible.

Welcome to the Provider Education Toolkit

Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) invites you to explore the Health Information Security & Privacy Collaboration (HISPC) Provider Education Toolkit (PET). It was designed specifically for physicians and the health care community as an essential online guide where you can learn more about electronic health records (EHR), electronic health information exchange (HIE), related privacy and security implications, ask questions, and get the tools and resources you need to safely and securely get connected! You can visit the PET Web site at secure4health.org.

It's Safe

HIE has the potential to improve communications among health care providers, support efficient transmission of patient records and provide effective coordination of care. Sharing information through HIE can improve patient safety and enhance the quality of care. Use this powerful tool to help improve clinical decisions, coordinate care and avoid medical errors.

It's Secure

Properly implemented, CCHIT-certified EHR systems uphold the security protections you use every day to maintain the confidentiality and security of your patient records. These systems also provide protections necessary to meet privacy and security guidelines set forth by HIPAA and other state and federal patient privacy laws.

It's Time

The days of paper records are drawing to a close. With the right resources and support, today's health care providers can take steps toward integrating HIE technology into their practices. This wise investment promises several returns – fully documented records, better patient care and time saved.

Background

The Provider Education Toolkit is the result of work completed by HISPC, a multi-year project launched in 2006 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. HISPC is comprised of 42 states and territories and addresses issues presented by HIE through multistate collaboration. The Toolkit consists of materials developed and first deployed between January and March 2009.

Goals of Provider Education Toolkit:

- Introduce health care providers to the benefits of HIE
- Increase provider awareness of the privacy and security benefits of HIE
- Identify the steps to HIE implementation
- Encourage participation in HIE

Georgia's Role in EHR and HIE Adoption

DCH's Office of Health Information Technology and Transparency (OHITT) has made great progress in bringing EHRs and HIE to Georgia. DCH's accomplishments in health care technology over the last three years include:

- Formation of the Health Information Technology and Transparency (HITT) Advisory Board and the HITT Office
- Award of the Medicaid Transformation Grant to DCH to assist with the implementation of georgiahealthinfo.gov, a consumer-focused Web site to help Georgians with their health care decisions
- Dissemination of HIE grants to four organizations to help foster the development of HIE, electronic prescribing and/or adoption of EHRs
- Participation in the HISPC Consumer Education and Engagement Workgroup
- Launch of georgiahealthinfo.gov
- Designation of DCH by Governor Sonny Perdue as the state agency to receive health information technology (HIT) grants available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009

Additional Information

To find more information on how the ARRA funds will be used in Georgia, please visit dch.georgia.gov. There is a section on georgiahealthinfo.gov dedicated to HISPC where you can learn about the security and privacy of EHRs. Also, please visit the **HISPC Provider Education Toolkit** Web site at secure4health.org and click on *Resources* to find additional information about how EHRs and HIE can benefit providers and their patients.