Health Information Technology (Iowa e-Health)

Division of Acute Disease Prevention & Emergency Response
Phone: 1-866-924-4636
www.IowaHealth.org

Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans

IDPH Iowa Department of Public Health

Imagine experiencing a heart attack hours away from home. The emergency room needs your vital health information fast. Blood type, allergies, and medications you take can affect the medical care you receive. Trouble is, it can take hours or days before the emergency room receives your medical records.

This is time you may not have.

That's why the Iowa Department of Public Health, through a public and private collaboration known as Iowa e-Health, is leading an effort to create a statewide health information exchange (HIE), which is also known as the Iowa Health Information Network (Iowa HIN). This secure network will give your primary care provider access to your vital health information when and where it is needed, in cases of emergency or during regular appointments.

This quicker access may save your life.

Did you know?

The health information exchange (or Iowa HIN) is not a central repository of health records; rather, it is a "hub" that connects different electronic health record systems throughout the state, allowing health information to flow between health care providers and, when appropriate, to IDPH.

Why is Iowa e-Health important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

Iowa e-Health will help facilitate the sharing of health information across boundaries of individual practice and institutional health settings and with consumers. It is a public good that will contribute to improved:

- Clinical outcomes and patient safety,
- Population health,
- Access to and quality of health care, and
- Efficiency in health care delivery.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Strengthen the public health infrastructure

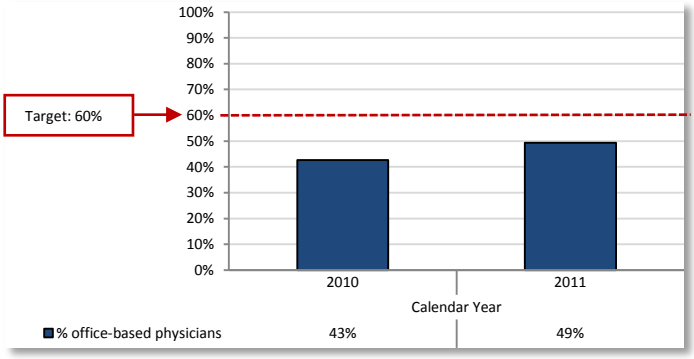
Prevent epidemics & the spread of disease

What do we do?

- Build awareness and trust of health IT.
- Promote statewide deployment and use of electronic health records and health information exchange.
- Enable a statewide health information exchange (also known as the Iowa HIN).
- Enable the electronic exchange of clinical data (e.g., continuity of care document).
- Safeguard privacy and security of health information.
- Advance coordination of health IT activities across state and federal government.
- Establish a governance model for Iowa e-Health.
- Execute and manage day-to-day business and technical operations for Iowa e-Health.
- Secure financial resources to sustain Iowa e-Health.
- Monitor and evaluate health IT progress and outcomes.

How do we measure our progress?

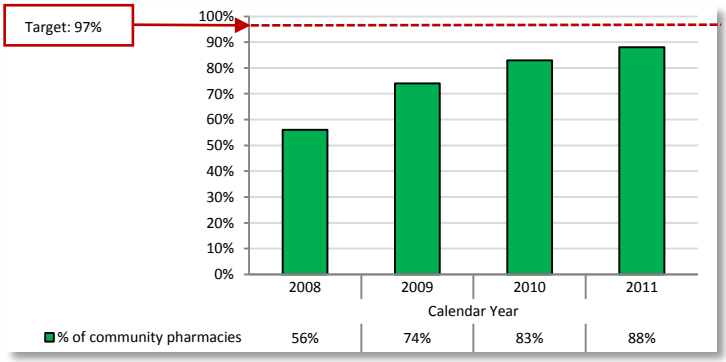
❶ **Percent of office-based physicians in Iowa who have adopted a basic electronic health record (EHR).**



Data Source: National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? One way to measure readiness to use Iowa e-Health services is to evaluate the extent to which providers are using EHRs or other clinical data systems. According to the 2011 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 49.3% of office-based primary care physicians in Iowa indicated they have adopted at least a basic EHR system. In 2010, only 42.6% of the Iowa office-based primary care providers responding to the same survey indicated basic EHR adoption. This shows that more providers are expanding their capacity to exchange health information electronically.

❷ **Percent of Iowa community pharmacies actively filling e-prescriptions using the Surescripts Network.**



Data Source: Surescripts Network Data Set for the State of Iowa. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? Iowa pharmacies are leading the charge to increase the use of health information technology across the state. According to Surescripts Network data, 88% of Iowa's community pharmacies were actively filling e-prescriptions using the Surescripts Network during 2011. This is up from 56% in 2008. Iowa's e-prescribing growth rate is faster than the national average.

As Iowa's HIN is developed and implemented, value cases will be collected and shared through the Financial Sustainability Plan to show how connection to an HIE impacts the quality, safety, and efficiency of Iowa's health care.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. Every Iowan should communicate with their health care provider(s) to learn how health information technology is being used to enable delivery of high quality, safe and efficient care.
2. All Iowans are encouraged to develop and improve personal computer skills.
3. All Iowans should learn about plans to promote the adoption and use of health IT, including the Iowa HIN. For more information, go to www.IowaeHealth.org.
4. Public health professionals should continue to learn about how health information technology can be fully utilized to promote and protect the health of Iowans.

Expenditures

General fund, federal funds, and intra state receipts* (Dept. of Human Services): K09-0977, 0153-0982/AR10.

	State Fiscal Year 2011 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2012 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2013 Estimate
State funds	$155,958	$150,307	$149,426
Federal funds	$649,873	$1,341,612	$5,672,802
Other funds*	$160,295	$363,987	$363,987
Total funds	**$966,126**	**$1,855,906**	**$6,186,215**
FTEs	5.63	4.55	7.00

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.

Iowa Department of Public Health ◆ Division of Acute Disease Prevention & Emergency Response ◆ Office of Health Information Technology (Iowa e-Health)

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