

# **Understanding the Massachusetts eHealth Landscape**

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# Massachusetts eHealth Organizations

While the bulk of health information technology and health information exchange investment occurs within healthcare organizations, the following are the public or multi-stakeholder e-health organizations currently active in Massachusetts:

- Eastern Massachusetts Healthcare Initiative (EMHI)
- Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative (MAeHC)
- Massachusetts e-Health Institute (MeHI)
- Massachusetts Health Data Consortium (MHDC)
- Massachusetts Health Information Technology Council
- Masspro
- Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC)
- NEHEN (New England Healthcare Exchange Network)

# MHDC

## The Massachusetts Health Data Consortium

- Established in 1978 as a neutral aggregator of hospital discharge data
- Evolved to be a neutral convener of healthcare organizations around issues related to health data, healthcare IT, and health information exchange
- Currently providing more than 100 meetings and events every year, ranging from conferences and workshops to forums and special events
- MHDC has done policy work for the state and federal governments and for Massachusetts healthcare stakeholders
- MHDC was the parent organization of MA-SHARE and now names the Class B Directors on the new NEHEN Board of Directors

# NEHEN

## The New England Healthcare EDI Network

- Founded in 1997, NEHEN grew to include all the major health plans and most of the hospitals in the state, handling over 80% of the inpatient administrative transactions in the state (@60 million transactions).
- Member-owned, peer-to-peer gateway model of data exchange
- NEHEN has saved its participants tens of millions of dollars in lower cost of administrative transactions
- NEHEN has been self sufficient since inception

# MA-SHARE

## Massachusetts – Simplifying Healthcare Among Regional Entities

- Founded in 2004 as the Massachusetts entry in the RHIO race
- Numerous innovative pilot projects (MedsInfo, Record Locator Service, NHIN, Rx Gateway, clinical messaging)
- Starting in 2007 began to refocus on a business service approach to HIE
- Merger discussions with NEHEN commenced in 2008 and were consummated in July, 2009.

# (The New) NEHEN

## New England Healthcare Exchange Network

- Formed from the merger of NEHEN and MA-SHARE
- The merger allowed for business and technical rationalization in preparation for HIE growth opportunities represented by EMHI and the federal stimulus bill
- The merged entity is better positioned to be a beneficiary of ARRA HIE funds
- With the volume of NEHEN, MA-SHARE, and soon EMHI, the new NEHEN will be one of the most robust regional HIEs in the country

# EMHI

## Eastern Massachusetts Healthcare Initiative

- A coalition of providers and payers working together to find collaborative ways to improve the healthcare system in eastern Massachusetts
- EMHI has launched projects focusing on healthcare-acquired infections, needless variations in care, and IT interoperability
- MHDC did EMHI's strategic plan for IT interoperability, and now CSC is doing the detailed implementation support work
- While still in the preparation stages, EMHI's work will likely result in a major increase in clinical data exchange in Massachusetts

# MAeHC

## Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative

- Founded in 2004 with a \$50 million grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- Worked in Brockton, Newburyport, and North Adams to deploy EHRs, community-repository HIEs, and a clinical data quality warehouse
- One of the premier EHR and HIE implementation organizations in the country
- A crucial resource for Massachusetts once we get past the procedural stages
- Is working with a number of other states and with organizations in Massachusetts to assist with EHR deployment and statewide planning

# MTC

## Massachusetts Technology Collaborative

- A quasi-public authority of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts founded in 1982 that works with academia, industry, and government to promote the state's innovation economy
- Works in areas as diverse as broadband deployment, renewable energy and other green technologies, medical devices, nanotechnology, and others.
- Has been working on CPOE and other healthcare technologies (such as Tele-ICU) for several years in partnership with NEHI (the New England Healthcare Institute)
- Is now the corporate host of the Massachusetts eHealth Institute

# MeHI

## Massachusetts eHealth Institute

- Established by Chapter 305 of the Acts of 2008 and hosted by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative
- Overseen by an HIT Council consisting of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Administration and Finance, the Medicaid Director, and five gubernatorial appointees
- Has \$15 million in state money to spend in accordance with a statewide plan that will be released in the fall of 2009
- MeHI is the Massachusetts state-designated entity for the HIE grants being awarded by ONC, and has submitted an application for an HIE planning grant
- MeHI has submitted an application on behalf of the entire state of Massachusetts for designation by ONC as a Regional Health Information Technology Extension Center. MeHI's initial application has been approved and MeHI is continuing to pursue first-round RHITEC funding.
- MeHI has submitted a \$5m application to the federal Department of Labor for an ARRA-funded training and workforce development grant program for high growth and emerging industries.

# Masspro, MHQP, NEHI

- Masspro – the Massachusetts Peer Review Organization was a leading QIO in the EHR deployment space, an original DOQ-IT pilot site, and host of DOQ-IT University. Currently developing new plans for its HIT/HIE role
- MHQP – the Massachusetts Health Quality Partners was involved in MAeHC’s quality warehouse project and has been involved in other HIT/HIE projects, in addition to its other work
- NEHI – the New England Healthcare Institute, founded in 2002, is a nonprofit, independent health policy institute that has provided support to MTC in connection with its healthcare projects (CPOE, Tele-ICU, etc.)