



# eHealth Collaborative Newsletter

March 2009

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receive the eHealth  
Collaborative Newsletter**

## Upcoming Events

**April 12–18, 2009**

Health Information Privacy and Security Week

**May 14, 2009**

Treatment Group Kickoff Meeting in Pierre

**May 15, 2009**

eHealth Collaborative Special Meeting in Pierre

**September 2009**

eHealth Collaborative Fall Meeting in Chamberlain

**October 7 & 8, 2009**

3rd Annual SD Health Information Technology Summit in Sioux Falls

## eHealth Collaborative Update

The South Dakota eHealth Collaborative met March 18 and 19 to discuss the future of Health IT in South Dakota. Members heard from Dr. John Halamka, the current chairman of the Health Information Technology and Standards Panel (HITSP) as well as a federal update and overview from Chris Muir with the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC). The group also heard about Health IT legislation from Kory Mertz with NCSL.

The Collaborative enacted bylaws and approved the development of the Center for the Advancement of Health Information Technology (CAHIT). The group looked at implementation, adoption, and infrastructure issues, and discussed the strategic plan and roadmap. Work groups were established to look at possible funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) as well as Telehealth, broadband, and adoption issues across South Dakota. The Collaborative will meet again in May.

## Check out the new eHealth Collaborative Brand

Visit the website to view the new eHealth Collaborative brand and find valuable Health IT tools and resources: [www.ehealth.dsu.edu](http://www.ehealth.dsu.edu)

Encourage your colleagues and co-workers to **SIGN UP to receive the eHealth Collaborative Newsletter** that provides monthly updates on the work the Collaborative is doing, links to interesting articles, and information on upcoming Health IT events.

## Electronic Medical Records: Nebraska envisions statewide network

by Stefanie Monge March 20, 2009 ([Omaha World-Herald](#))

The Nebraska Health Information Initiative plans to seek federal stimulus funds to establish a statewide network for electronic medical records.

Participating parties will explain the system, called the Nebraska Statewide Health Information Exchange, at a ceremony with Gov. Dave Heineman in Lincoln on April 2.

The Internet-based exchange would allow health care professionals, hospitals and other medical organizations to get access to a central database of patient medical records.

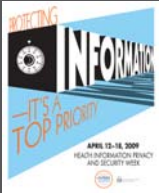
To view full article online [click here](#).

## ONC makes NHIN materials available on the Web

by Diana Manos March 17, 2009 ([Healthcare IT News](#))

The Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology has released information online to help organizations participate in the Nationwide Health Information Network. (NHIN).

The materials include technical, data content and use case specifications, as well as testing materials and trust agreements developed during the NHIN trial implementations.



Learn how your organization can promote HIPS Week. Visit the **AHIMA Website** for more information

## SPOTLIGHT on State Health Information Exchange Efforts

### Vermont

- [Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Inc.](#)
- [INVESTING IN HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: VERMONT CREATES AN E-FUND](#)
- [Vermont Building Health Information Exchange](#)

### Delaware

- [THE DELAWARE HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK \(DHIN\)](#)
- [Delaware Health Information Network \(DHIN\) \(HHS\)](#)
- [Nationwide Health Information Network \(NHIN\): Trial Implementations](#)
- [Delaware Clinical Information Exchange Utility, Delaware Health Information Network](#)

## Links

- **eHealth Initiative**
- **AHIC**  
American Health Information Community
- **AHRQ**  
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- **HHS**  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- **ONC**
  
- **HITSP**  
Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel
- **SLHIE**  
State-level Health Information Exchange Consensus Project
- **NHIN**  
National Health Information Network
- **HRSA**  
Health Resources and Services Administration
- **NCSL**  
National Conference on State Legislatures

HHS officials said more information about these materials and current and upcoming NHIN activities will be featured at the Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Annual Conference April 4-8 in Chicago. The sessions will be held Sunday, April 5 (titled "Lighting up the NHIN: What it Means for You") and Tuesday, April 7 ("Plugging into the NHIN.")

To view full article online [click here](#).

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## N.M. Senate passes patient consent, 'opt out' bill

by Joseph Conn March 9, 2009 ([ModernHealthcare.com](#))

Patient consent may be required before links to their electronic health records can be placed on a record locator service if a bill that passed the New Mexico state Senate advances in the House, according to the New Mexico Health Department. The bill, **the Electronic Medical Records Act**, is an initiative of Gov. Bill Richardson sponsored by Democratic state Sen. Peter Wirth.

The legislation would enable patients to opt out of any locator service. One commonly used design for regional health information organizations and statewide health information exchange organizations features a centralized record-locator service that does not contain a full patient record, but an index of basic patient demographic information used to identify a patient, such as name, sex and date of birth; and links to the providers or other record keepers on the network where that patient's records are stored.

To view full article online [click here](#) (free registration required).

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## Funding News

- [E-prescribing savings will offset the \\$19 billion feds will spend for health IT \(Gov't HealthIT\) \(03/16\)](#)
- [Obama's Health Plan Challenged by Senate Budget Chief \(Bloomberg\) \(03/12\)](#)

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## Governance News

- [Certification Commission accelerates certification development \(HC IT News\) \(03/23\)](#)
- [HHS names health technology coordinator \(The News & Observer\) \(03/20\)](#)
- [NCPDP forms standards development organization \(HC IT News\) \(03/19\)](#)
- [Obama team looks to federal employee health program as a model \(Gov't Exec\) \(03/16\)](#)

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## Education News

- [Health care experts warn of challenges for IT adoption \(cnet news\) \(03/18\)](#)
- [Online Records Get Patients Involved in Care \(The WSJ\) \(03/18\)](#)
- [Health insurers try for a major image makeover \(AP\) \(03/15\)](#)
- [Rules engine touted for interstate exchange of health records \(Gov't HealthIT\) \(03/05\)](#)

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## Technology News

- [From Portals to HIE \(Advance\) \(03/11\)](#)
- [Google Health sharing--simple but potentially important \(The HC Blog\) \(03/04\)](#)
- [Industry coalition launches health IT security plan \(Reuters\) \(03/02\)](#)

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## More News

- [Google replaces EHR system for employee health clinics \(HC IT News\) \(03/20\)](#)
- [Arizona exchange ready to roll \(Gov't HealthIT\) \(03/13\)](#)
- [Cancer Exchange Selects HIE Vendor \(HealthData Mgmt\) \(03/13\)](#)