NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE AUTHORITY

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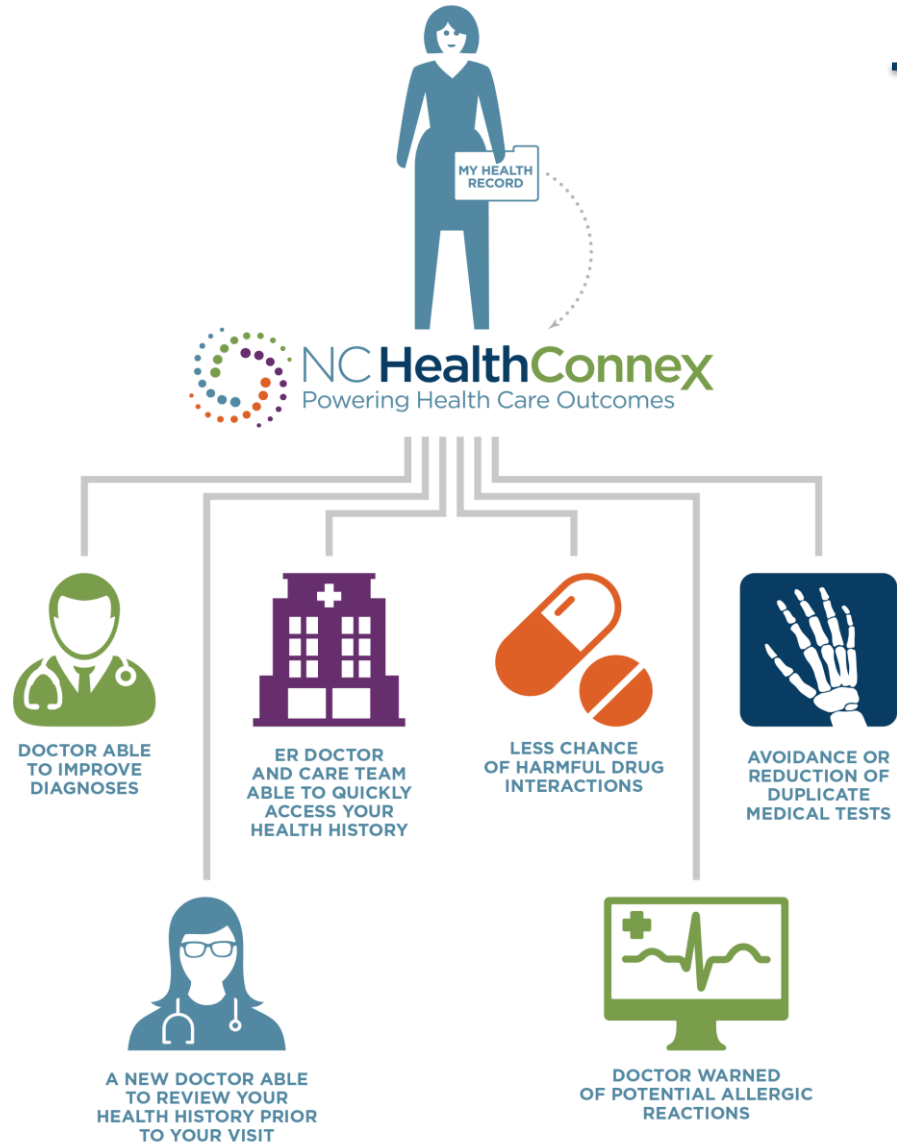Department of Information Technology

Who is the North Carolina Health Information Exchange Authority?

- The North Carolina General Assembly created the North Carolina Health Information Exchange Authority (NC HIEA) in 2015 to facilitate the creation of a modernized HIE to better serve North Carolina's health care providers and their patients. *(NCGS 90-414.7)*

- Housed within the Department of Information Technology's Government Data Analytics Center (GDAC).

- Our technology partner is SAS Institute.

- Eleven-member Advisory Board, appointed by the General Assembly and made up of various IT and health care representatives that include the Secretary of Department Health and Human Services, Secretary of Department of Information Technology and the Government Data Analytics Center Director.

What is NC HealthConnex?

- North Carolina's state-designated Health Information Exchange.

- A tool to facilitate conversations between all health care provider types across the state to break down the silos between existing networks.

- Enables participating providers to access their patients' comprehensive records across multiple providers, as well as review labs, diagnostics, history, allergies, medications and more.

Legislative Requirements

- Feasibility study underway with target completion date end of February/early

  March (NCSL 2015-241 as amended by NCSL 2017-57, Section 11A.5.(h))

- Extension process (NCSL 2015-241 as amended by NCSL 2017-57, Section 11A.5.(b))

- Connection timelines (NCSL 2015-241 as amended by NCSL 2017-57, Section 11A.5.(a))

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Feasibility Study

Statute asks the agencies to examine:

(1) The availability of **connection, exchange, and data submission standards established by the Office of the National Coordinator** for Information Technology within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

(2) The **adoption of national standards** for the connection, exchange, and data submission standards by provider type.

(3) **Cost estimates by provider type to connect** and submit data to the HIE and any **availability of federal or State funds** to meet connection or submission requirements.

(4) Data captured in the treatment of patients, segmented by provider type.

(5) Activity of **other states and payor plans** with respect to the establishment of an HIE Network.

(6) **Alternatives to the connection and submission** of demographic, clinical, encounter, and claims data through the HIE Network.

Extension Process

The process for granting an extension of time must include:

- a presentation by the provider or entity to both agencies on the expected time line for connecting to NC HealthConnex

- neither agency shall grant an extension of time to any provider or entity that fails to provide this information or that would result in the provider or entity connecting to NC HealthConnex later than June 1, 2020.

- both agencies will consult on formal requests for extension and decide upon a request within 30 days after receiving a request for an extension.

Current State

1200+ Live

30 + County Health Departments and Federally Qualified Health Centers

20+ Hospitals & Health Systems

200+ Primary Care Providers

400+ Ambulatory Sites, including specialty providers

300+ in queue for onboarding

- **To date, all participants are sending all patient data**

- **Over 4 million unique patient records as of 11/30/17**

- **Numerous EHR vendor, cloud-based integrations in flight**

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Value-Added Features

Communicate | Direct Secure Messaging Accounts provided by NC HealthConnex allow connection with other providers by sending and receiving secure, encrypted messages.

Connect | Access to DSM Provider Directory with over 16,000 (and growing) secure messaging addresses of health care providers.

Contribute | Public Health Reporting via Registries – Diabetes Declaration of Readiness, December 1, 2017.

Convey | Utilize the clinical data an organization captures with timely analytics and reporting about patient population via Clinical Notifications.

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Key Operational Activities

- Budget & Staffing

- Federal Grant - $27M

- HIEA Work Groups

- EHR Vendor Outreach

- DHHS Roadmap to Strategically Align HIEA with DHHS Programs

- Participation Agreement

- Data Connections – Georgia (GaHIE) and USDVA (VHIE)

Future State…

- Approx. 98% of North Carolina's health care providers will be connected to NC HealthConnex by June 1, 2020

  - includes labs, pharmacy, behavioral health, transportation, etc.

- LME/MCOs as well as PHPs required to connect and submit encounter claims data by June 1, 2020

- Project that we will have visibility into +/- 90% of citizens receiving treatment in North Carolina (Current population est. @ 10M; UNC Carolina Population Center)

- Will have access to data from other states through connections to national health care data networks (Migration accounted for 72% of the state's growth last year; UNC Carolina Population Center)