

Update from NCHICA: ARRA HITECH Stimulus Initiatives in North Carolina and PCAST Future View

Presented to
The Virginia Health IT Standards Advisory Council (HITSAC)
Chester, VA
March 17, 2011

Agenda

- **NC HIE + Challenge Grant**
- **NC Beacon Community**
- **NC Regional Extension Center (REC)**
- **Community College HIT Workforce Training**
- **Curriculum Development Centers**
- **Broadband Middle Mile Deployment**
- **NCHICA**
- **PCAST**



The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

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 - Community College Consortia to Educate Health IT Professionals
 - Curriculum Development Centers Program
 - Program of Assistance for University-Based Training
 - Competency Examination Program
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Get the Facts about Health IT Workforce Development Program

Health information technology professionals are in demand.

As the nation moves toward a more technologically advanced health care system, providers are going to need highly skilled health IT experts to support them in the adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records.

To help address this growing demand, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) has funded the Health IT Workforce Development Program. The goal is to train a new workforce of health IT professionals who will be ready to help providers implement electronic health records to improve health care quality, safety, and cost-effectiveness.

About the Workforce Development Program

ONC has awarded \$84 million in funding for the following Health IT Workforce Development Program activities:

- **Community College Consortia to Educate Health Information Technology Professionals:** Five regional groups of more than 70 community colleges in all 50 states have \$36 million in grants to develop or improve non-degree health IT training programs that can be completed in six months or less. The programs are designed for professionals with an IT or health care background. The funded community colleges will help train more than 10,500 new health IT professionals by 2012.
- **Program of Assistance for University-Based Training:** Nine grants totaling \$32 million have been awarded to colleges and universities to establish or expand health IT training



State Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement Program

In March 2010, ONC completed the announcement of State Health Information (State HIE) Exchange Cooperative Agreement Program awardees. In total, 56 states, eligible territories, and qualified State Designated Entities (SDE) received awards.

The State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program funds states' efforts to rapidly build capacity for exchanging health information across the health care system both within and across states. Awardees are responsible for increasing connectivity and enabling patient-centric information flow to improve the quality and efficiency of care. Key to this is the continual evolution and advancement of necessary governance, policies, technical services, business operations, and financing mechanisms for HIE over each state, territory, and SDE's four-year performance period. This program is building on existing efforts to advance regional and state-level health information exchange while moving toward nationwide interoperability.

North Carolina Department of State Treasurer*	\$12,950,860
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North Carolina Health Information Exchange

Implementing Statewide HIE in North
Carolina

Date: February 17, 2011

Statewide HIE Infrastructure...Vision and 2011 Goals

What is HIE?

- The capability to securely move clinical information electronically between disparate healthcare information systems while maintaining the accuracy of the information exchange.

Goals and Promises of HIE

- Improved health outcomes
- Better care coordination among providers
- Reduced medical errors
- Reduced health disparities
- Controlled health care costs
- Mechanisms for more robust data sets and aggregation to support quality improvement, public health and research objectives

Statewide HIE Infrastructure...Vision and 2011 Goals

North Carolina Statewide HIE OPERATIONAL PLAN

Ver	Date	Description
1.0	August 31, 2010	Version 1.0 submitted to ONC
1.1	October 25, 2010	Updated to incorporate a new effort to facilitate the electronic transportation of structured laboratory results. See page 62.

Mission of the NC HIE

- To provide a secure, sustainable technology infrastructure to support the real time exchange of health information to improve medical decision-making and the coordination of care.

<http://healthIT.nc.gov>

Statewide HIE Infrastructure...Vision and 2011 Goals

Technology Infrastructure Goals for 2011 to Support Foundation of Trust

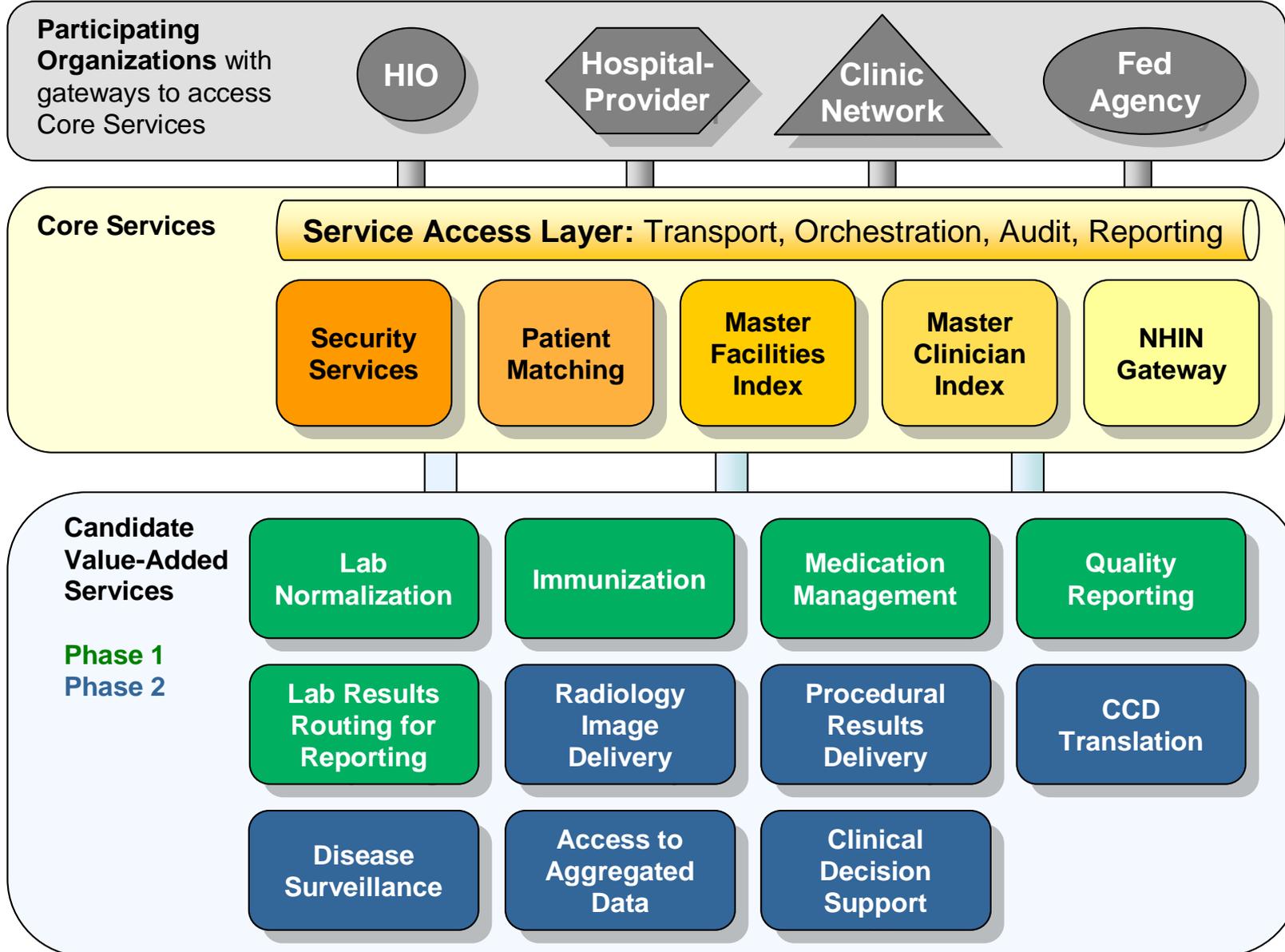
- In 2011, the NC HIE will build the foundation to facilitate statewide exchange of data. The NC HIE will deploy core services (“basic building blocks”) so that:
 - We can identify the right, or authorized, users
 - We can guarantee security of protected health information that may be exchanged between users
 - We can understand and support the content and structure of messages that may be exchanged.
 - The NC HIE can serve as the single “Source of Truth” for core services for the state of NC
- These core services will provide a foundation for more complex capabilities to search, locate, and integrate information across multiple systems.

Statewide HIE Infrastructure...Vision and 2011 Goals

What We Want to Accomplish in 2011 – “Big Picture”

- Support the Introduction of Legislation to Facilitate Opt Out Consent Model and to Harmonize Various State Laws Related to Medical Records
- Identify and Contract with an IT Vendor
- Build and Deploy Core Services
- Draft a Set of Policies and Procedures to Govern Participation in the HIE
- Identify and Contract with Qualified Organization Pilot Sites
- Secure Financing
- Continue to Recruit Highly Competent Staff and Further Develop Non-Profit's Organizational Structure
- Initiate Value-Add Service Development and Roll Out for More Robust Service Offerings of Immediate Value to Participants
- Finalize Board of Directors Bylaws

NCHIE Services



Core Services

<u>Core Service</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>What it Does</u>
Security Services	The “4As” of authorization, access, authentication, authorization, control and auditing.	Allows identification and verification of who is on the network.
Master Facilities Index	Registry of facilities in NC. Includes ability to process additions, deletions, and updates	Verifies a facility’s identity and contains the information required to electronically route transactions to the appropriate site
Master Provider Index	Registry of providers in NC. Includes ability to process additions, deletions, and updates	Verifies a provider’s identity and contains the information required to electronically route transactions to the appropriate person
Patient Matching	Algorithms (or a registry) that identifies patients and location of their records	Allow users to search and locate patient records across multiple systems
NHIN Gateway	A single statewide gateway that conforms to specifications for connection to the “NHIN”	Allow entities in NC to share data with other entities that participate in the NHIN.

For more information



<http://healthIT.nc.gov>



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On January 27, 2011, an additional \$16 million was made available to states through ONC's new Challenge Grants program. This program will provide funding to states to encourage breakthrough innovations for health information exchange that can be leveraged widely to support nationwide health information exchange and interoperability. The [HIE Challenge Grant Program](#) is providing 10 awards between \$1 and \$2 million to State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program grantees to develop innovative and scalable solutions in five key areas. Visit the [HIE Challenge Grant Program](#) web page to learn more about this important program.



Health Information Exchange Challenge Grant Program

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The Health Information Exchange (HIE) Challenge Grant Program is providing 10 awards between \$1 and \$2 million to [State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program](#) grantees to develop innovative and scalable solutions in five key areas:

1. Achieving health goals through health information exchange
2. Improving long-term and post-acute care transitions
3. Consumer-mediated information exchange
4. Enabling enhanced query for patient care
5. Fostering distributed population-level analytics

The ONC-funded [State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program](#) promotes secure exchange of health information to enable patient-centered care and providers' achievement of [meaningful use requirements](#).

NC Dept of State Treasurer	\$12,950,860.00	\$1,708,693.00	1
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Beacon Community Program

Improving Health Through Health Information Technology

The Beacon Community Cooperative Agreement Program provides funding to 17 selected communities throughout the United States that have already made inroads in the development of secure, private, and accurate systems of electronic health record (EHR) adoption and health information exchange. The Beacon Program will support these communities to build and strengthen their health information technology (health IT) infrastructure and exchange capabilities to improve care coordination, increase the quality of care, and slow the growth of health care spending.

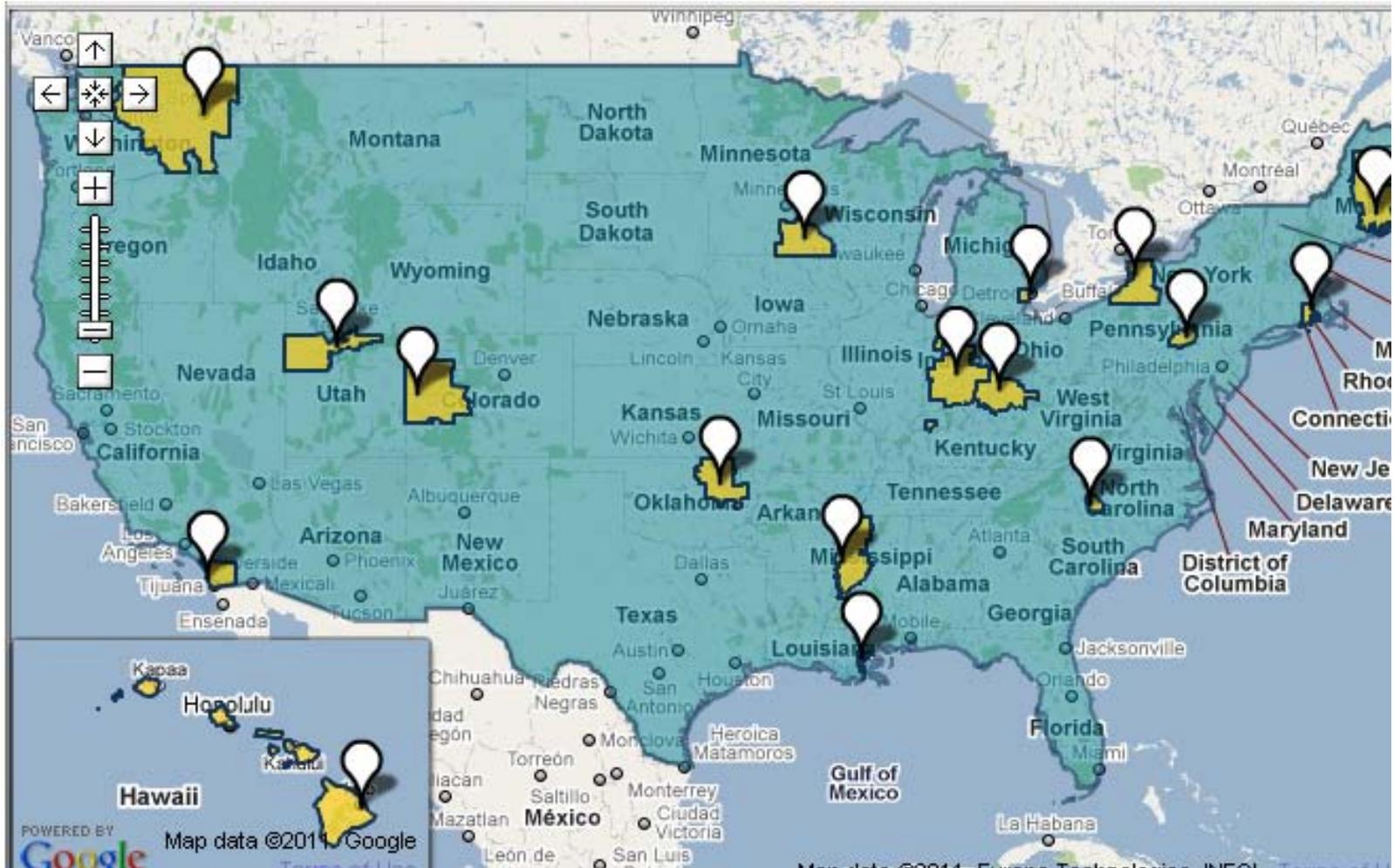
The 17 Beacon Communities will focus on specific and measurable improvement goals in the three vital areas for health systems improvement: quality, cost-efficiency, and population health, to demonstrate the ability of health IT to transform local health care systems. The goals vary according to the needs and priorities of each community. For instance, some communities will focus in the care for chronic conditions such as asthma, heart failure, and diabetes to illustrate how costs can be reduced and patient care improved through the collection, analysis, and sharing of clinical data.

[Southern Piedmont
Beacon Community,
Concord, NC](#)

\$15,907,622

Increase use health information technology, including health information exchange among providers and increased patient access to health records to improve coordination of care, encourage patient involvement in their own medical care, and improve health outcomes while controlling cost.

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology



Southern Piedmont Community Care Plan Beacon Community

Focus areas for improving patient outcomes in Cabarrus, Rowan and Stanly counties over the next 26 months:

- Reduce Emergency Department (ED) visits and hospital readmissions through the implementation of a transitional care program
- Improve chronic care management to include:
 - Diabetes, Congestive Heart Failure, Ischemic Vascular Disease
- Improve population health
 - Increase mammogram and colorectal cancer screening
 - Decrease smoking rates in child bearing women
 - Collect syndromic surveillance data for health department tracking & planning
- Support practices in meeting Stage I Meaningful Use incentive for 2011
- Assist practices in becoming certified as Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH)
- Evaluate the creation of an Accountable Care Organization (ACO)

Health Information Technology Extension Program

The HITECH Act authorizes a Health Information Technology Extension Program. The extension program consists of Health Information Technology Regional Extension Centers (RECs) and a national Health Information Technology Research Center (HITRC).

What is the HITRC?

The HITRC will gather information on effective practices and help the RECs work with one another and with relevant stakeholders to identify and share best practices in EHR adoption, meaningful use, and provider support.

What are the Regional Extension Centers (RECs)?

The RECs will support and serve health care providers to help them quickly become adept and meaningful users of electronic health records (EHRs). RECs are designed to make sure that primary care clinicians get the help they need to use EHRs.

RECs will:

- Provide training and support services to assist doctors and other providers in adopting EHRs
- Offer information and guidance to help with EHR implementation
- Give technical assistance as needed

University of North Carolina AHEC REC	University of North Carolina AHEC REC 	tom_bacon@med.unc.edu	NC	\$13,569,169	
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NC AHEC's Primary Care Consulting Services

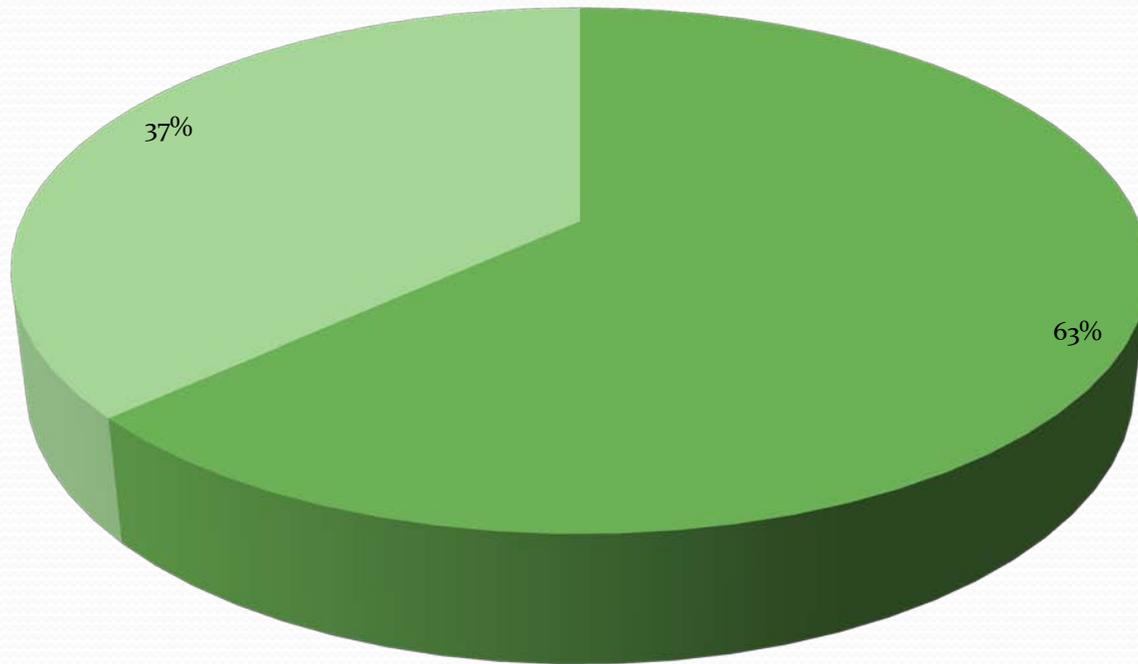


Regional Extension Center

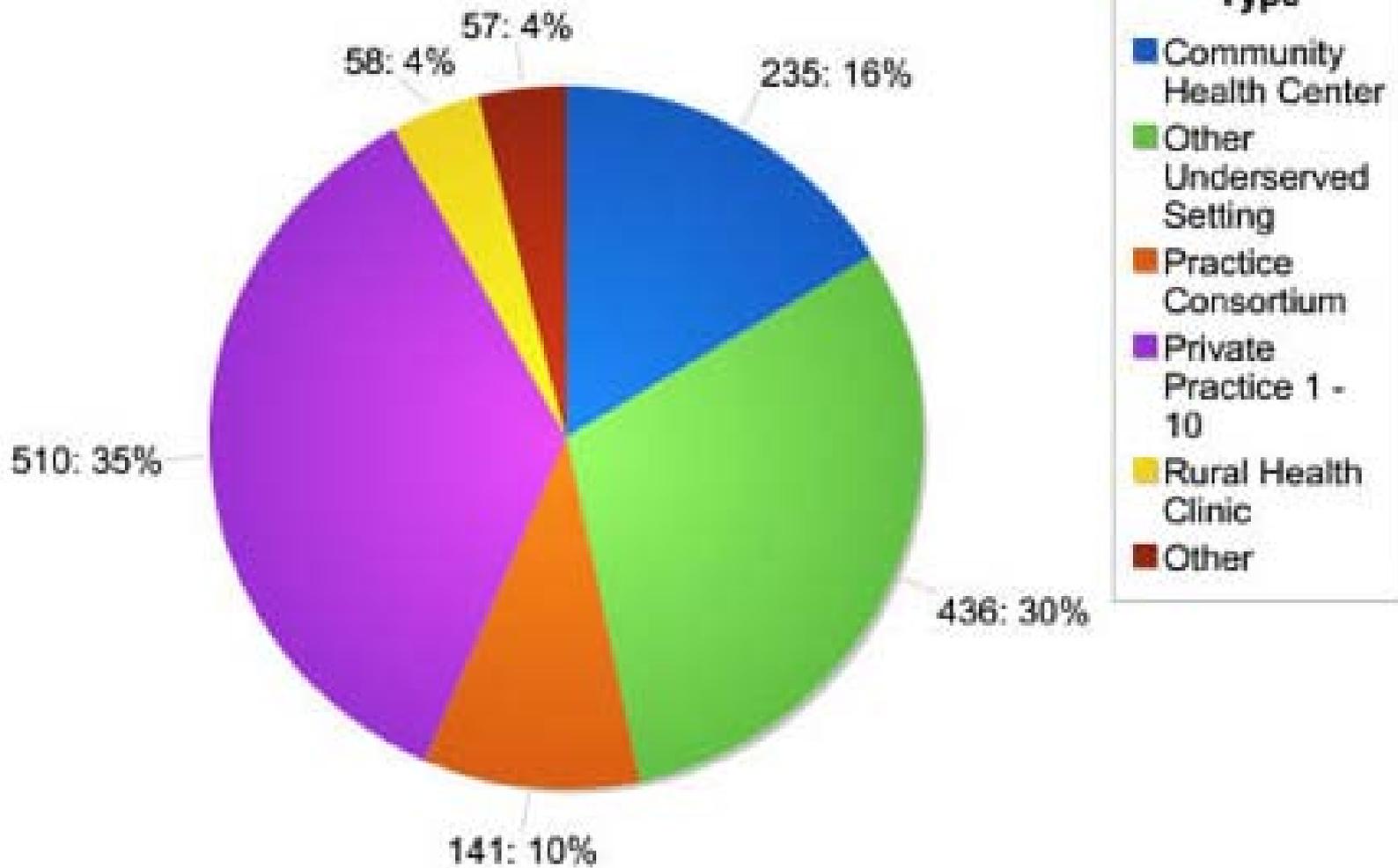
- Governor's office asked AHEC to take the lead in the REC application
 - Other partner organizations in NC REC include:
 - The Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence
 - The North Carolinas Medical Society Foundation
 - The NC Institute of Public Health
 - Community Care of North Carolina
- Approved as a first round REC
- \$13.6 mil over 4 years
- Target: 3500 priority primary care providers across NC

NC REC has achieved 63% of its recruitment goal to date

2189 Providers Recruited



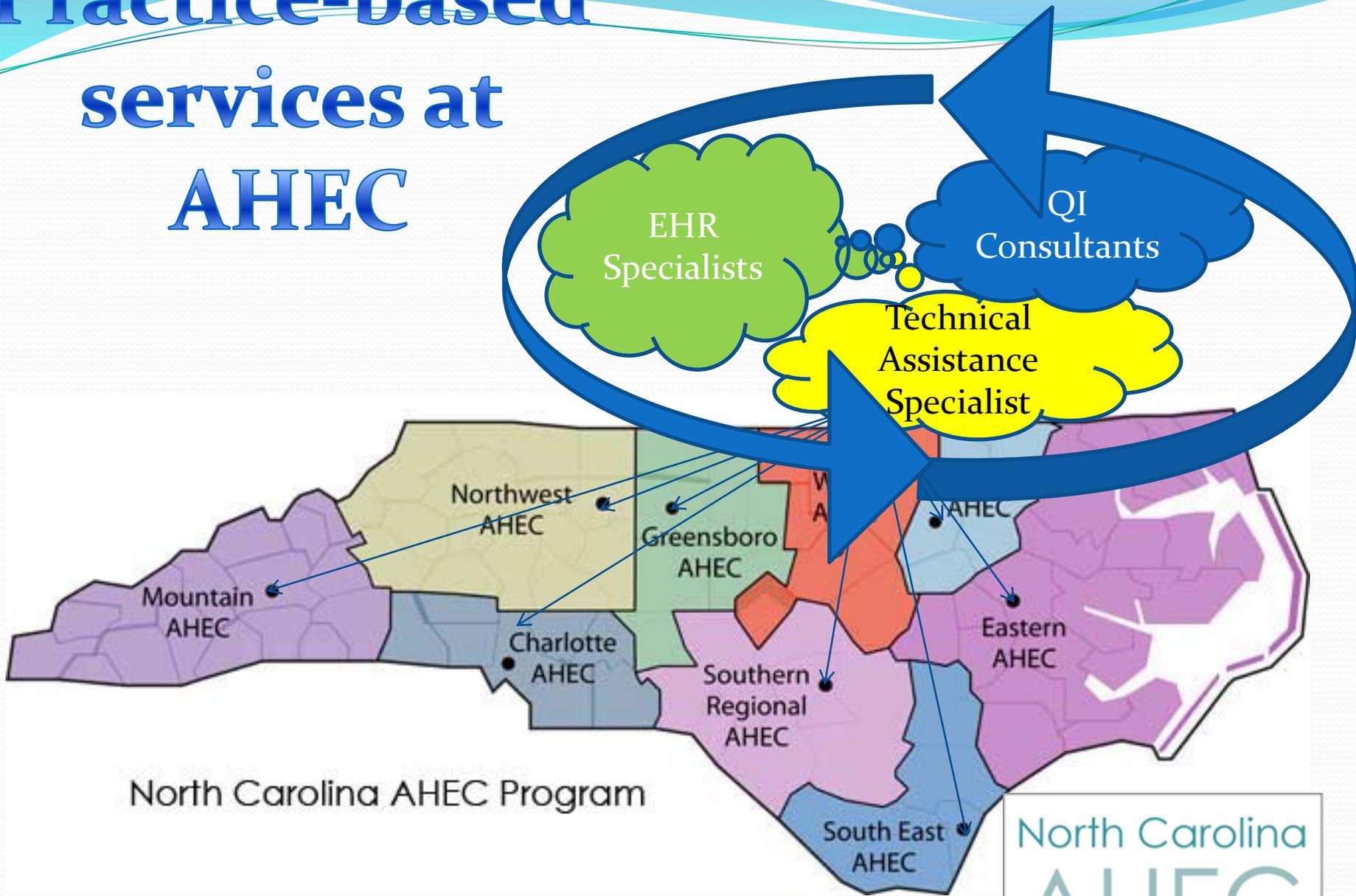
of PPCPs Signed Up by Practice Type



AHEC's Consulting Program Basics:

- Entire state of NC (100 counties)
- No charge for services for primary care practices *for now*
- Priority Primary Care Providers
 - Small practices (less than 10 providers)
 - Rural
 - Underserved
 - FQHC/RHC

Practice-based services at AHEC



North Carolina AHEC Program



AHEC's Training and Experience

- Knowledgeable and Experienced staff from:
 - Practice managers with EHR implementation and use experience
 - EHR vendor reps with ambulatory care experience
 - Technical support personnel
- All AHEC Consulting staff are required to complete additional training:
 - 28 hours on EHR implementation and meaningful use
 - 10 hours on additional QI and primary care focused initiatives
 - Tandem visits with experienced consultants to start
- Ongoing training of vendors
 - Work with the vendor community to understand implementation and upgrades needed for their specific systems.

Application received

Practices will transition through AHEC Services

Do they have an EHR?

No

EHR Implementation Specialist works with practice

Successful EHR Implementation

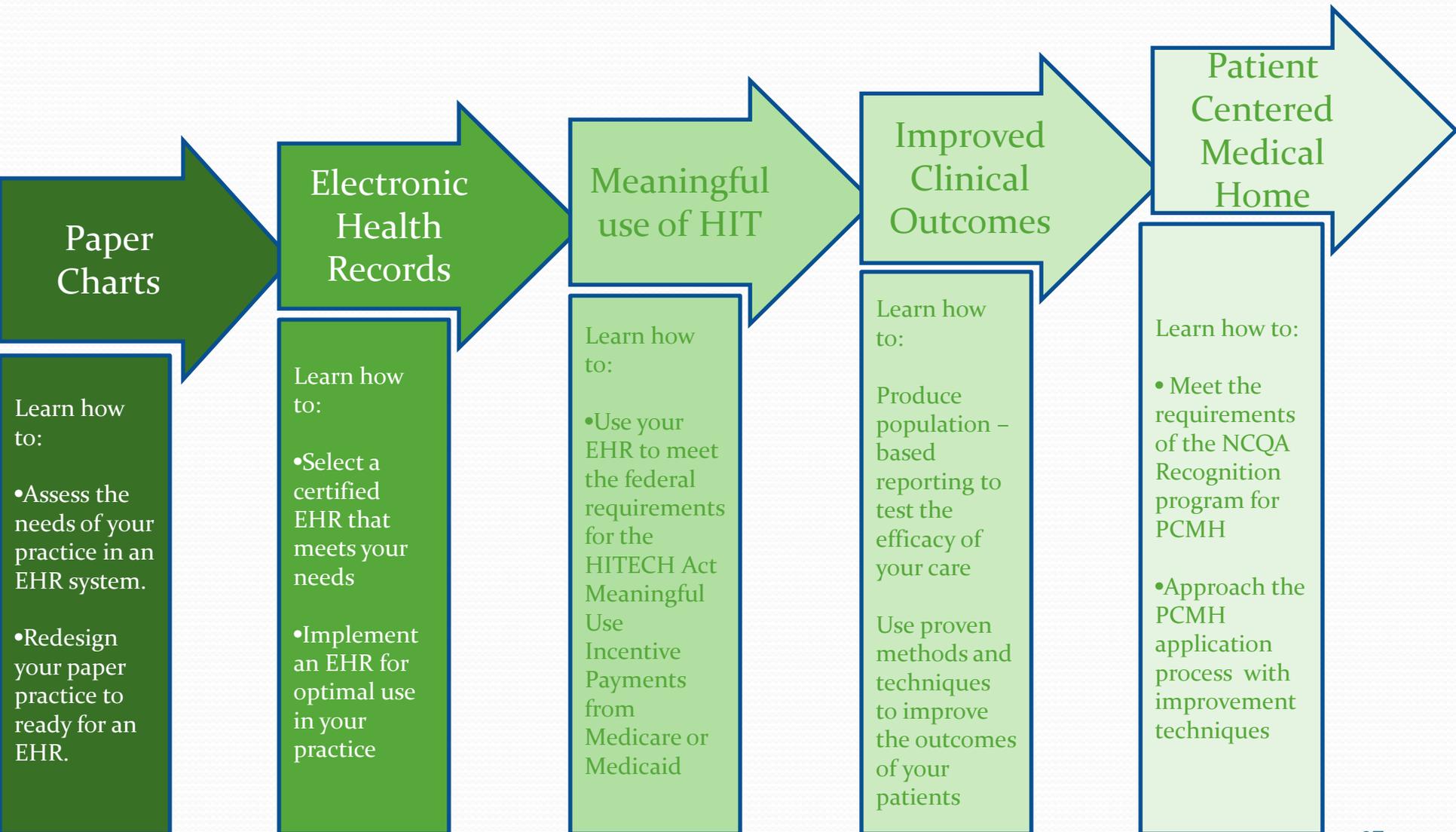
Yes

Meaningful use gap analysis and data pull

All services lead to improving clinical outcomes

QIC works on IPIP and PCMH

Meeting the demands of primary care



www.ahecqualitysource.com



Home

Regional Extension Center

Improving Performance in Practice

Resources

Continuing Education

Partners

NC Health Quality Alliance

AHEC Quality Source Practice-Based Primary Care Services

HELPING YOU MEET THE CHALLENGES

Incentives to support transformation of primary care practice continue to emerge. While you likely want to pursue one or more proven, practice-based strategies to improve care, demands on your time and energy are increasing exponentially. Fortunately, the [NC Area Health Education Centers](#) Program can help. At no charge to your practice, consultants from your regional AHEC can work with you to adopt an electronic health record, redesign care systems, improve outcomes, and meet national program requirements.

Apply Today!



Community College Consortia to Educate Health Information Technology Professionals in Health Care Program

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) established the Community College Consortia to Educate Health Information Professionals to help address the growing demand for highly skilled health IT specialists.

What is the Community College Consortia?

The Community College Consortia is part of the Health IT Workforce Development Program, administered by ONC. The consortia comprises five regional groups of more than 70 member community colleges in all 50 states. These community colleges received \$36 million in grants to develop or improve non-degree health IT training programs that students can complete in six months or less.

On January 27, 2011, the community college programs were awarded \$32 million in second year funding to continue the progress academic HIT programs have made training the specialists needed to make rapid adoption and meaningful use possible.

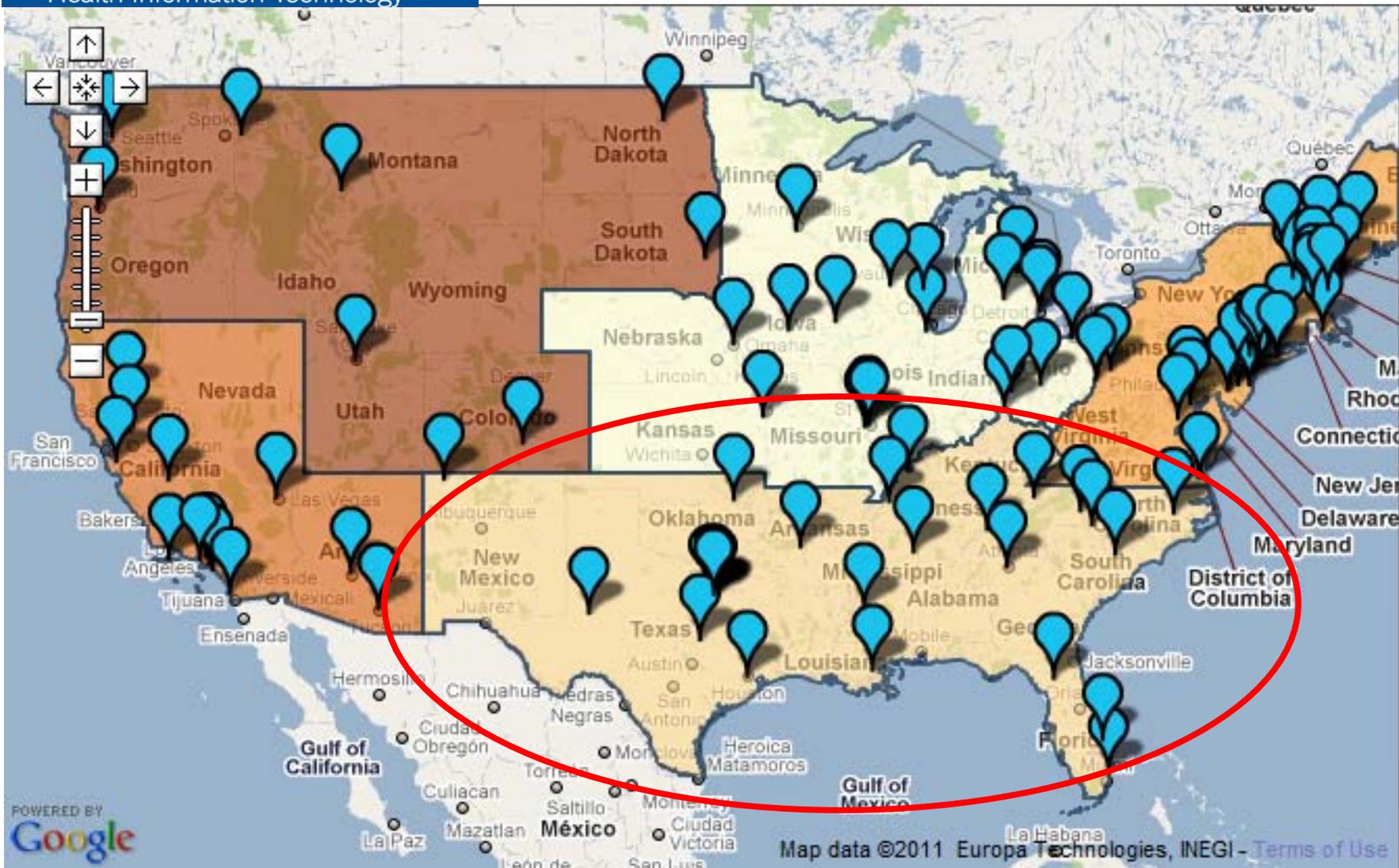
What will be the impact of this program?

Programs established through this grant will help train more than 10,500 new health IT professionals annually by 2012. An increased workforce of skilled health IT specialists will be important in supporting providers as they transition to electronic health records.

Regional Community College Consortia Awards

Region	A	B	C	D	E
Lead Awardee of Consortium	Bellevue College	Los Rios Community College District	Cuyahoga Community College District	Pitt Community College	Tidewater Community College
Year 1 Funding Allocation	\$3,364,798	\$5,435,587	\$7,531,403	\$10,901,009	\$8,492,793
Year 2 Funding Allocation	\$2,798,463	\$5,182,328	\$7,116,493	\$9,669,892	\$7,524,815
Contact	Patricia Dombrowski www.nwhit.org	Walter D. Di Mantova www.wrhit.org	Norma Morganti www.mwhit.org	Kay Gooding	Gretchen LeFever

Community Colleges **Region D** Responsibility



Curriculum Development Centers Program

The purpose of the Curriculum Development Centers Program, one component of the Workforce Program, is to provide funding to institutions of higher education (or consortia thereof) to support health information technology curriculum development. The materials developed under this program will be used by the member colleges of the regional Community College Consortia as well as be available to institutions of higher education across the country.

In April 2010, ONC awarded \$10 million in grants to five domestic institutions of higher education to develop curriculum and instructional materials to enhance workforce training programs primarily at the community college level. One of the awardees under this program, Oregon Health & Science University, will receive additional funding to serve as the National Training and Dissemination Center (NTDC) that will host an in-person training event for community college faculty, establish a secure electronic site from which all materials may be downloaded, collect feedback from instructors and students, and coordinate subsequent revisions of the curriculum materials.

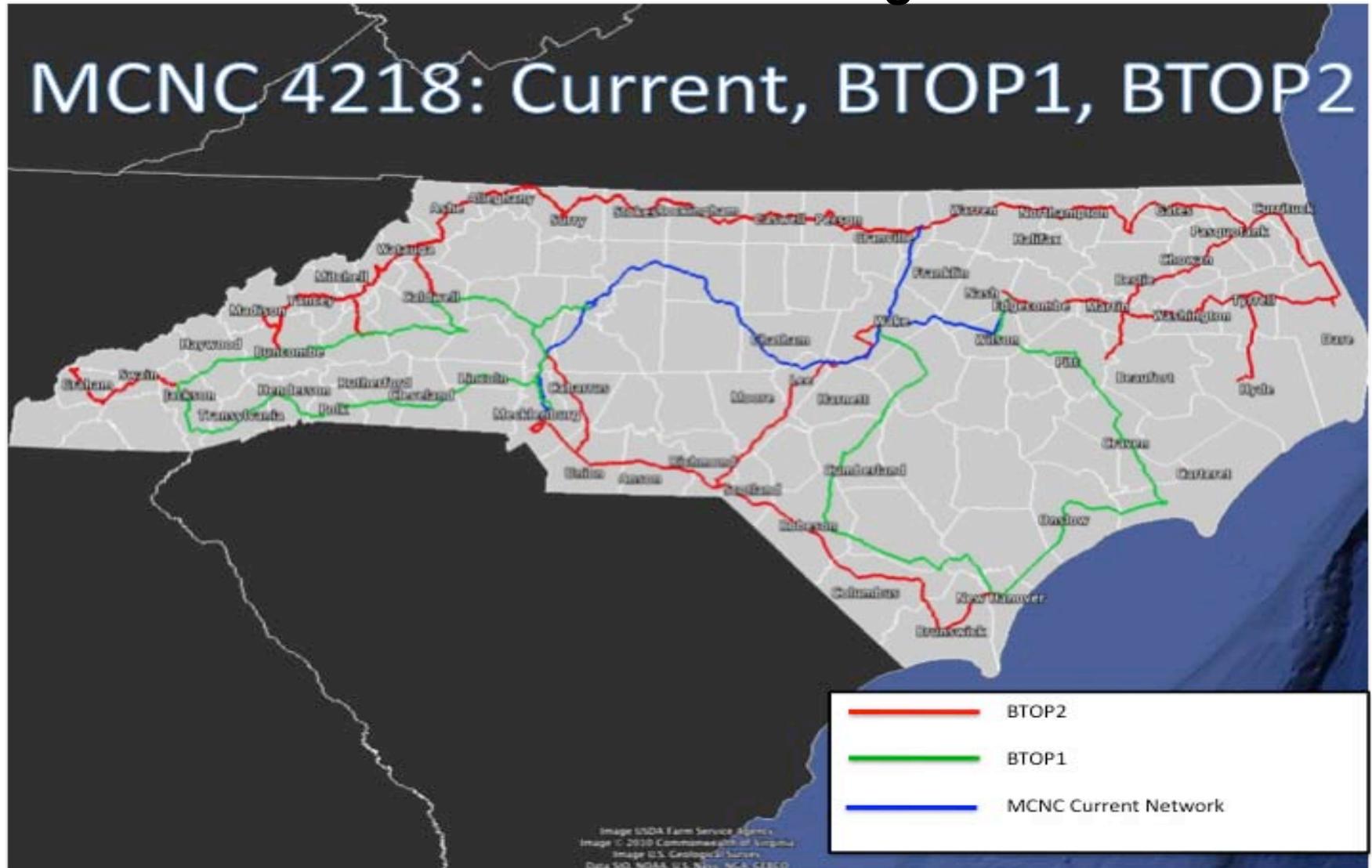
Curriculum Development Centers Program Awardees:

- Oregon Health & Science University \$2,720,000
- University of Alabama at Birmingham \$1,820,000
- Johns Hopkins University \$1,820,000
- Columbia University \$1,820,000
- Duke University \$1,820,000

HIT Workforce Training Program

- Intensive, online, six-month non-degree education
- Designed to provide a qualified pool of workers with both a medical and information technology body of knowledge to ensure
 - the adoption of the electronic health records (EHRs)
 - information exchange across health care providers and public health authorities, and
 - the redesign of workflows within health care settings to gain the quality and efficiency benefits of EHRs, while maintaining privacy and security of medical information.
- The Program will be flexibly implemented to provide each trainee with skills and competencies that he/she does not already possess.
- Focus will be on individuals who have either medical or information technology knowledge and education. Training will provide these individuals knowledge, skills, and aptitudes necessary to implement an electronic health records system

MCNC is lead in Deployment of \$146M in Middle Mile Broadband Funding



**NCHICA's Role in the Development
of the Nationwide Health
Information Network
(NwHIN)
+
NCHICA Workgroups & Activities**

NCHICA

- Established in 1994 by Executive Order of Governor
- Mission: *Improve health and healthcare in NC by accelerating the adoption of information technology and enabling policies*
- Nonprofit - 501(c)(3)
 - Broad membership and governance
 - Neutral environment for collaboration
 - Members build consensus, tools, and implementation strategies
 - Support standards and education for professional development and leadership

NCHICA and the Nationwide Health Information Network



2005-8 Prototype Architectures / Trial Implementations

IBM Health Information Service Provider



2009-11 Emergence Implementations



WNC DATA LINK



Business Case for WNC Connection to the Asheville VA Medical Center

- 16 hospitals in the Western NC Health Network currently are sharing data
- The Asheville VA Medical Center is the only hospital in the region not connected to share data for patient care
- Approximately 4+ Veterans present in emergency rooms in WNC per day without access to VA medical data.
- Project provides learnings that can be applied to other military and VA facilities in NC [approx. 1.6M+ active duty, dependents and veterans living in NC]



[WNC DATA LINK](#)

*Western North Carolina
Health Network -
Hospital Members*



- Angel Medical Center
- Cherokee Indian Hospital
- Community CarePartners/Thoms
- Harris Regional Hospital (WestCare)
- Haywood Regional Medical Center
- Highlands-Cashiers Hospital
- Mission Hospitals
- Murphy Medical Center
- Pardee Hospital
- Park Ridge Hospital
- Rutherford Hospital
- St. Luke's Hospital
- Spruce Pine Community Hospital
- Swain County Hospital (WestCare)
- The McDowell Hospital
- Transylvania Community Hospital

WNC DATA LINK

Usage Data

WNC
HEALTH
NETWORK

- 2.6+ Million Records
- 450 physicians using Data Link monthly
- 20,000+ hits per quarter

Monthly Hits by Module

- LAB: 13,300
- RADIOLOGY REPORTS: 12,500
- TRANSCRIPTIONS: 35,800

Driving Clinical Connectivity in Western NC

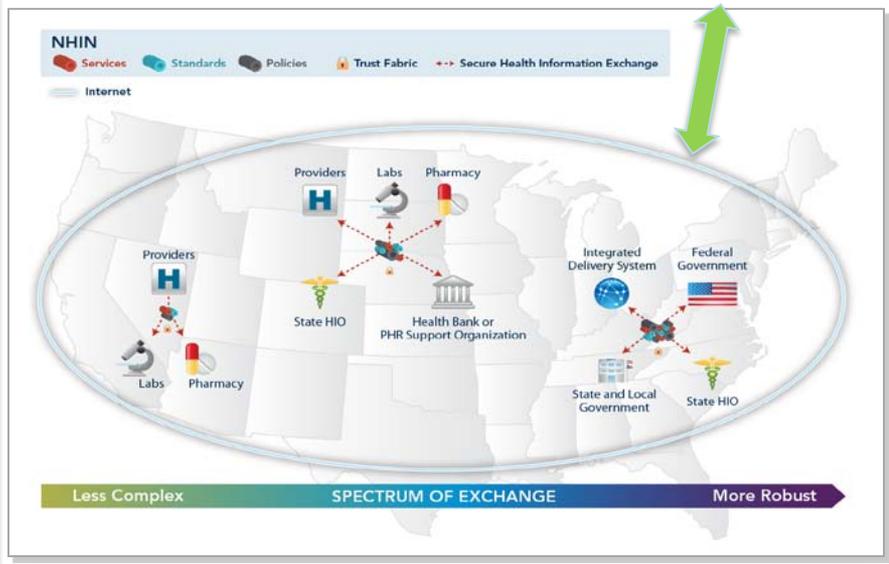
Western North Carolina Health Network - Hospital Members



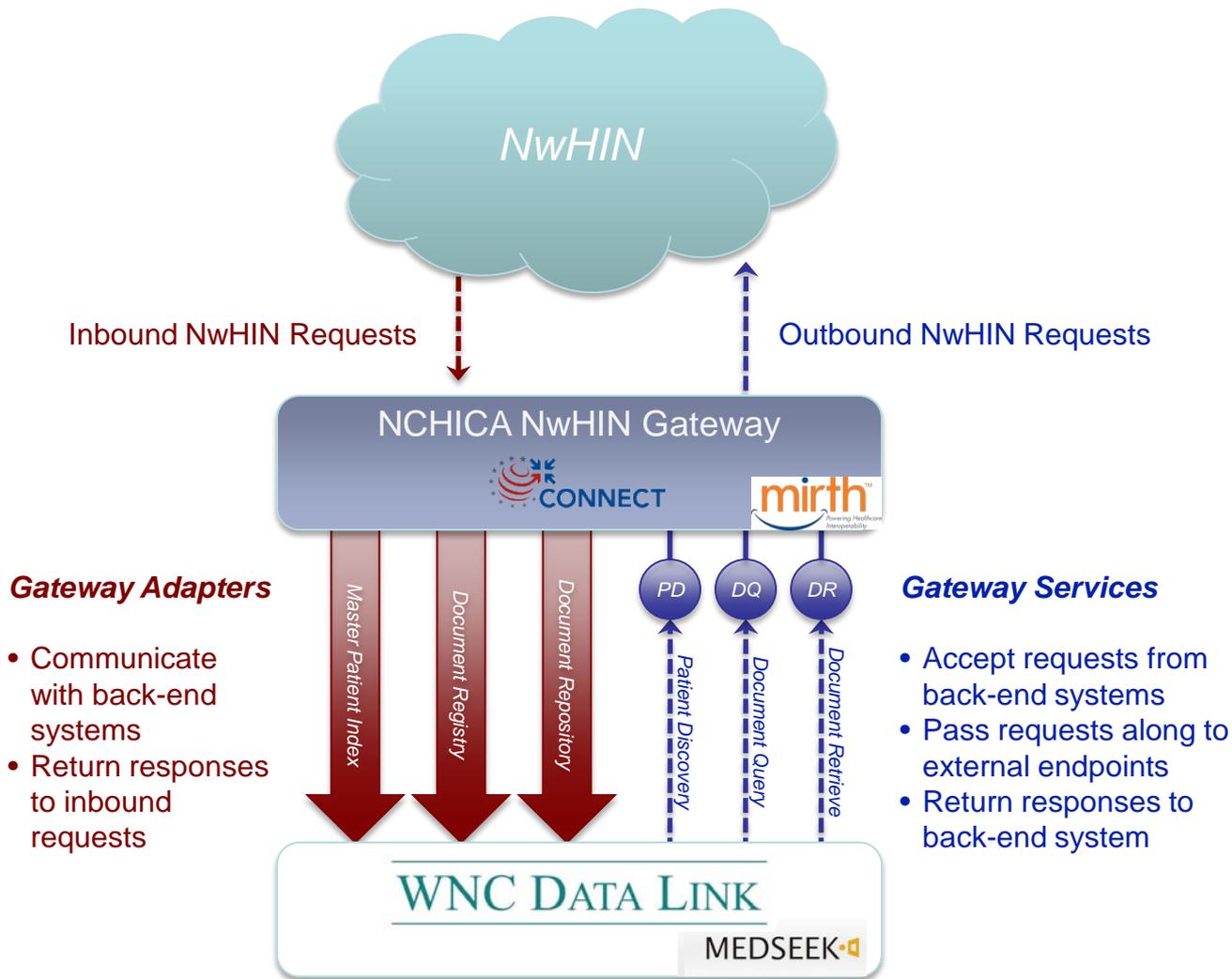
- Angel Medical Center
- Cherokee Indian Hospital
- Community CarePartners/Thoms
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- Murphy Medical Center
- Pardee Hospital
- Park Ridge Hospital
- Rutherford Hospital
- St. Luke's Hospital
- Spruce Pine Community Hospital
- Swain County Hospital (WestCare)
- The McDowell Hospital
- Transylvania Community Hospital


**NCHICA
CONNECT
Gateway**

*Asheville VA
Medical Center*



NCHICA NwHIN Gateway



NCHICA

Workgroup Updates

NCHICA Workgroups

– NC Consumer Advisory Council on Health Information

- Membership building
- Submitted proposal to NC HIE Board

– CIO / CMO-CMIO Roundtables

- Quarterly Roundtables
- Driving educational activities such as Cloud Workshops
- Tasking NCHICA Workgroups with projects of value to members

– Business Continuity / Disaster Recovery Workgroup

- Undertaking development of education programs for infrastructure issues
- Diverse membership from data center construction to power to environmental control to disaster recovery to systems security
- Crucial in development of Cloud Workshops

NCHICA Workgroups

– Business Partner Alliance

- HIT Organizations convened at 2010 HIMSS Conference, and expect to at HIMSS 2011
- Twice met with NC Regional Extension Center at NCHICA offices and NCHICA Conference
- 50+ organizations participating, interest from non-members
- “Unique group in country” – (EHR company quote)

NCHICA Workgroups

- **Privacy & Security Officials Workgroup** (35 plus attendees monthly):
 - Published *Risk Assessment Tool for Breach Notification*
 - Updating the *Managing Sensitive Electronic Information on Portable Devices and Removable Media* Template
 - NCHICA Response to HHS Request for Public Comment on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (with Legal Workgroup)
- **Transactions, Code Sets & Identifiers WG** (30 plus attendees monthly)
 - ICD-10 Task Force – (CMS requested to participate in this unique group)
- **Meaningful Use WG** (in formation stage)

Getting Involved:

- TCI work group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 9:30 to noon.
- ICD-10 Task Force meeting the same day from 12:30 – 3:00
- Both groups share a networking lunch
- Web GoToMeeting™ and conference call capability is available for both meetings.
- If your organization is not already engaged, we encourage you encourage your staff to join. (Send contact information to tara@nchica.org)

The Future ?



REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT
REALIZING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF
HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE
FOR AMERICANS:
THE PATH FORWARD

Executive Office of the President
President's Council of Advisors
on Science and Technology

December 2010





Regulations & Guidance

The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act provides HHS with the authority to promulgate regulations and guidance to support the development of an interoperable, private and secure nationwide health information technology infrastructure.

PCAST Report on Health Information Technology

The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) report, "[Realizing the Full Potential of Health Information Technology to Improve Healthcare for Americans: The Path Forward](#)," [PDF - 1.63 MB] provides recommendations for using health IT to facilitate the real-time exchange of patient information.

- [PCAST Press Release \[PDF - 43 KB\]](#) (December 8, 2010)
- ONC recently sought comments on certain aspects of the PCAST report. [View the questions in this Request for Information \[PDF - 20 KB\]](#).

www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/pcast-health-it-report.pdf

Thank You!

Holt Anderson

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www.nchica.org

Questions ?