

## Utah-Based Health Information Exchange Pilots Multi-State Care Coordination Initiative

- **Secure data exchange among Utah, Arizona and western Colorado**
- **Improves care coordination when patients travel**
- **Providers are notified of hospitalizations and get detailed records**

Salt Lake City, UT, June 3, 2016 - Utah's state-designated health information exchange (HIE), the cHIE, supports care coordination even when patients receive out-of-state healthcare services. The cHIE is now part of a live "patient-centered data home (PCDH)" exchange with HIEs in Arizona and western Colorado: the Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC), based in Phoenix, and Quality Health Network (QHN), based in Grand Junction. The PCDH initiative is a cost-effective, scalable way for HIEs to communicate across their networks to send patient information to the right provider at the right time.

cHIE-participating providers can securely receive electronic notifications of hospital and emergency department encounters - cHIE Alerts - for patients they specify. Through the new PCDH exchange, whenever any patient for whom a provider receives cHIE Alerts is treated at participating hospitals in Arizona or western Colorado, the provider will receive a cHIE Alert just as they do when their patients have encounters at participating Utah facilities. The Out-of-State cHIE Alerts include all the information providers need to offer their patients appropriate follow-up care, such as the out-of-state hospital name and address to enable them to contact the hospital if needed.

The cHIE will automatically query the Arizona and Colorado exchanges for patient information when providers access it as part of their patients' care following their return to Utah. Additionally, participating providers in the Arizona and western Colorado exchanges who treat patients from Utah will receive those patients' records through the cHIE to ensure continuity of care. All out-of-state information becomes part of the comprehensive longitudinal patient records in the HIE where the patient resides.

Utah hospitals also benefit because Out-of-State Alerts allow providers in Arizona and western Colorado to learn firsthand about cHIE-participating hospitals, their specialties and offerings.

UHIN President and CEO Teresa Rivera says of the PCDH initiative, "There is significant potential for sharing patient information, especially in western states that are vacation and seasonal destinations for many patients, but it is also important to navigate the HIE-related privacy and consent laws of each state." Rivera notes that the PCDH model allows HIEs to retain their own governance structure while exchanging data through other HIEs. This framework resolves the issue of data use agreements, policies and patient consent models varying across HIEs.

UHIN is committed to the PCDH vision that clinical data should be available whenever and wherever care occurs, and be centered around the patient to improve care quality.



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**About UHIN**

UHIN is a nonprofit coalition of healthcare providers, payers, state government and other stakeholders whose mission is to positively impact healthcare through reduced costs, improved quality and better results by fostering data-driven decisions. Since 1993, UHIN has been creating electronic exchange solutions for administrative and clinical data, that work for providers and payers of all sizes. For more information, visit [www.uhin.org](http://www.uhin.org).

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