

John Lillie  
Interface Supervisor  
SISU Medical Systems

# Minnesota e-Health Initiative Standards Workgroup Update



## **Workgroup Charge**

“Identify, monitor and recommend specific standards for sharing and synchronizing patient data across interoperable electronic health record systems and across the continuum of care”

## **Co-Chairs**

Bobbie McAdam & Mike Ubl

## **Subject Matter Expertise**

Standards (technical and functional); interoperability; interfaces; HIE; continuity of care transactions

## **Workgroup Staff**

Priya Rajamani

## **Web Site**

<http://health.state.mn.us/e-health/stndrdshome.html>

# Minnesota e-Health Initiative Framework for Interoperability



- **Framework consists of**
  - Working definition
  - Types of interoperability
  - Transactions for Exchange
  
- **Interoperability of Electronic Health Records (EHR) systems in Minnesota** means the ability of two or more EHR systems or components of EHR systems to exchange information electronically, securely, accurately and verifiably, when and where needed. It is comprised of “**technical**,” “**semantic**” and “**process**” interoperability, and the information exchanged includes transactions and standards as defined by the Minnesota Commissioner of Health.
  
- Transactions & standards referred in the definition currently include the following:
  - Electronic Prescribing and Medication Management
  - Immunization Information Exchange
  - Laboratory Results ReportingThe anticipated transactions for 2009-10 include:
  - Exchange of Clinical Summaries
  - Public Health Surveillance and Case Reporting

# Technical Interoperability



- Technical Interoperability means the transmitting of data accurately and securely from one point to another. It involves the “infrastructure” (hardware, software, and data transmission) of sending the information. “Certified Software”, VPN tunnels, and HL7 are examples.

# Semantic Interoperability



- Semantic interoperability speaks to the communication of the data in a way that both the sender and receiver understand what the data means. The way we can do this is by creating standards that both the sender and receiver will adhere to. Things like LOINC, SNOMED CT and ICD-10 will help achieve this.

# Process Interoperability



- Process interoperability is creating “best practices” between the sender and receiver. This will mean that the sender and receiver will have to work closely together to develop “like” processes in similar scenarios.

# Mandate Summary

- **ePrescribing** - Sending of scripts electronically
- **Immunization Information Exchange** – Sending and receiving report data electronically to/from Public Health Agencies
- **Lab Results** – Transmission of Lab results from LIS to other EHR's, Public Health Agencies, and HIE's
- **Clinical Summaries** – (CCD) Develop standards for the ability to receive clinical summaries into an EHR
- **Public Health Surveillance and Case Reporting** – Process to “electrify” the reporting of diseases so that information is updated/available quickly.  
(ex Swine Flu outbreak)

# Educate yourself

- Read and understand the guides that will be available later this month (eHealth Summit)
- Find and absorb as much info as you can.
  - The state web site is an excellent source (<http://health.state.mn.us/e-health/index.html>) for state as well as federal information
  - HISTALK
  - HIMSS
  - AMDIS
  - HITSP

# Plan

- Set your priority transactions for data exchange based on:
  - What improves care
  - What would qualify for financial incentives under “meaningful use” as part of federal stimulus legislation
  - What will provide the greatest operational improvement in your practice
- Define current workflow related to manual data exchange
- Identify what is needed to migrate to electronic data exchange
  - Understand vendor timelines and limitations
- Identify costs associate to implement and maintain electronic data exchange (both sides)
  - Interface cost
  - Resource (staff) costs associated to interface planning, design, implementation and maintenance
- Budget for costs

# Conclusion

- The more you can inform yourself, the better.

Once you are soaking up information, start the IT strategic planning process at your site so that you are ready when the “time” comes. Don't wait too long!!

- Open up the lines of communication