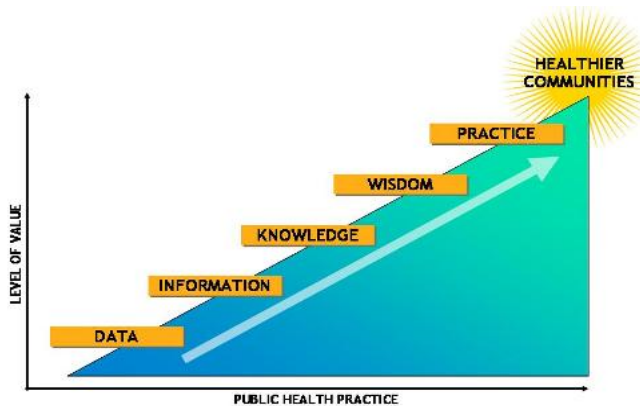


Health Informatics Program

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Health informatics program was established in 2002 and incorporated as part of the Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) 2009.

The Health Informatics program (HIP) works to improve the health of individuals and communities by transforming the way health information systems are used in healthcare and public health.



Source: Leventher, Zelenkova and the Minnesota Department of Health

Health informatics provides a disciplined approach to information systems design and use to drive improvements in healthcare and public health practice. In short it is the “*Science of the Effective use of Information*”.

Health Informatics Program Activities

Assessment and Evaluation

Lead and direct efforts to establish and maintain statewide informatics profile of the adoption, and use of electronic health records and the secure exchange and interoperability of health information. Responsibilities include organizing, executing and evaluating research and assessment activities and correlating findings from a variety of research sources and reports.

Standards and Interoperability

Direct the statewide program for Minnesota e-health standards and monitor national data, terminology and process standards and assess the health industry’s readiness for adoption of standards statewide.

Understand the factors associated with adoption and use of standards for exchange of health information.

Informatics Collaboration, Leadership and Training

Provide scientific and informatics technical expertise to health and health care information system projects and studies to ensure effective informatics methodologies are used in the analysis, design, development, modification and procurement of information systems and in improving work processes.

The Health Informatics Program fosters the effective use of health information to inform clinical and public health practice through several key activities.

Support Strategic Health Informatics Initiatives such as the:

- ♦ Minnesota Statewide e-Health Initiative
- ♦ Minnesota Strategy for Health Information Exchange (MN e-Health Connect)
- ♦ Oversight of Health Information Exchange in Minnesota
- ♦ Minnesota e-Public Health Initiative
- ♦ Minnesota Privacy and Security Program

Supporting Health Informatics Projects

- ♦ RWJF Common Ground Project
- ♦ Public Health Informatics Profile Tool-Kit
- ♦ RWJF InfoLinks grant – Health exchange project

Improve the informatics capacity of the workforce and organizations

- ♦ Mentoring of Health Informatics and Nursing Informatics graduate students
- ♦ Promoting Resources for Informatics Education and Training



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Partnerships and Collaborations

The staff in the health informatics program work with various partners to provide informatics expertise on numerous projects.

External to MDH:

- University of Minnesota School of Nursing and Health informatics programs
- Office of National Coordinator (ONC)
- Center for Disease prevention and Control (CDC)
- Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII)
- Public Health Data Standards Consortium (PHDSC)
- National Opinion Research Center (NORC)
- Mayo Health Systems and Foundation
- Institute of Medicine (IOM)
- National Library of Medicine (NLM)
- Regenstrief Institute (Indiana)
- Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
- American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA)
- Minnesota Beacon projects (ONC funded)
- Minnesota Sharp projects (ONC funded)
- Minnesota Regional Extension center/REACH
- Minnesota Informatics workforce training programs (UPHI University consortium & Normandale Community College)

Collaboration Internal to MDH:

- Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC)
- Minnesota Electronic Disease Surveillance System (MEDSS)
- MDH Public Health Laboratory
- Local public health departments

Health Information Exchange Program

MN e-Health Connect Project

The Minnesota e-Health Connect program, builds upon the previous six year effort of the Minnesota e-Health Initiative. Enabling the secure exchange of health information among health care stakeholders is essential to realizing the broad mission of the Minnesota e-Health Initiative. The Minnesota e-Health Connect program will utilize a multi-tiered governance structure that encompasses much of the existing e-Health infrastructure with new aspects of health information exchange oversight.

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<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpsc/ohit/index.html>

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

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