

## Consumer and Staff Benefits of MN-PHIN as Part of e-Health

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### Consumer Benefits

#### Population health perspective

- I will have access to more complete, integrated and timely information about health risks and resources in my community, so I can make better decisions about managing my health
- I have greater confidence that, because public health agencies and healthcare providers are connected electronically, they can communicate more easily and respond quicker in the event of a health emergency.
- I am assured that public health agencies will work effectively with others to control outbreaks of disease and environmental hazards.

#### Personal health perspective

- Visits to my home can be better coordinated among the nurses and aids that come to see me.
- I save time and worry because there is no need to fill out lengthy forms or explain my health history (and possibly forget something important) when I sign up for services from my public health agency.
- I increase the likelihood of receiving appropriate and safe care because the public health nurse has all the information she needs to make the right decisions.
- My health information can be sent between my doctor(s) and the public health agency, so that each has the most current information and tests don't have to be repeated.
- I can use secure e-mail to ask my public health nurse confidential health questions.

### Staff/Agency Benefits

#### Population health perspective

- We can electronically and promptly receive reportable disease information from MDH.
- We can much more readily combine data from different sources to get an integrated view of a community's health indicators and risks.
- We can respond to public health emergencies more rapidly and effectively because of the electronic exchange of information.
- We can post prevention and health information on our web site, which is not only cheaper than printing brochures but is easier to update with new information and respond to new needs.

#### Personal health services perspective

- It is easier to coordinate care across multiple providers because sharing information is easier and more timely.
- I will save time and frustration by no longer having to enter and update the same client/family information in multiple systems.
- I can assess a client's health status and service needs by looking in one electronic record that integrates data from other providers, as well as environmental health and other public health programs.
- We can save time by electronically sending information on our clients to health care organizations, rather than copying, faxing or mailing paper records.
- We can easily send reminder notices so needed services are provided at the right time and we have fewer no-shows at clinics.