

# Minnesota e-Health Initiative

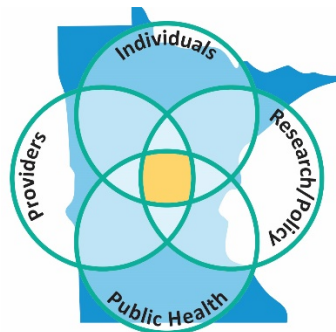
## Improving Health through e-Health Collaboration

The Minnesota e-Health Initiative (Initiative) is a public-private collaborative to improve health through e-health. This includes the collection, use and sharing of information via electronic health records (EHRs), health information exchange (HIE), mobile health, and other types of health information technology (HIT). The vision of the Initiative is

*All communities and individuals benefit from and are empowered by information and technology that advances health equity and supports health and wellbeing.*

The Minnesota e-Health Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) guides the Initiative. The Advisory Committee members offer and consider perspectives from four domains (Figure 1). The Advisory Committee provides guidance and makes recommendations that influence e-health policy, guidelines, and practice throughout Minnesota.

**Figure 1. Minnesota e-Health Initiative Domains**



*The scope of the Initiative includes individuals, families, and caregivers; research and policy; community and public health; and providers, care teams, and services. These domains intersect across the care continuum and align with the Initiative's mission.*

The Initiative takes action on issues that align with its mission, listed on page 4, and are identified by the community, health commissioner, and elected officials. It also monitors and responds to emerging issues and national activities. Recent Initiative action include:

- Recommendations for using e-health to address the opioid crisis
- Toolkit to address privacy issues faced by providers exchanging health information
- Recommendations for improving HIE in Minnesota
- Responding to a variety of emerging issues and policies

The Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT), provides leadership, coordination, and staff support to the Initiative.

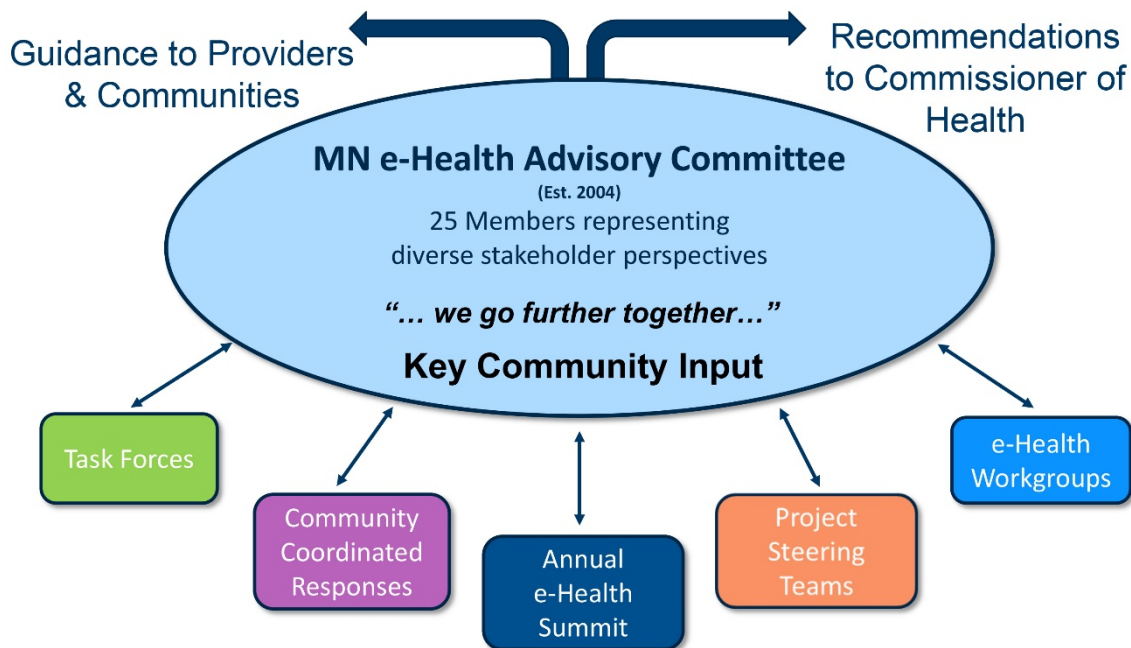
## Building Consensus for Collective Action

The Initiative builds consensus for collective action through community engagement, subject matter expert input and knowledge, science and evidence-based research. It is led by a 25-member Advisory Committee, which has the responsibility to make recommendations to the Commissioner of Health on e-health policies and strategies, and provides guidance to the community in support of Initiative’s vision and mission (Minnesota Statutes, section 62J.495). Members are appointed by the Commissioner of Health and meet quarterly to provide input, make recommendations, and direct the work of the Initiative.

The Advisory Committee conducts key elements of its work through task forces, workgroups, steering teams and other community forums that are topic based and deliverable driven (Figure 2). This process, which results in recommendations and guidance, is dependent on broad participation from leaders, consumers, and subject matter experts from across the health care continuum.

In addition, the initiative sponsors an annual one-day statewide [e-Health Summit](#) that draws leaders and health professionals from across Minnesota. The Summit is an opportunity to hear from national speakers and share local Minnesota lessons learned, network with colleagues from across the state and hear about community models that exemplify the Initiative’s vision.

**Figure 2. Minnesota e-Health Initiative Process**



## Sharing Perspective and Knowledge

The ongoing success of the Initiative is dependent on participation from across the care continuum and representation from the four domains. The Initiative needs your perspective, knowledge and wisdom to provide guidance and make recommendations to advance health equity and improve health and wellness through e-health.

For more information on the Initiative:

- 1) Visit the [Initiative website](#).
- 2) Sign-up for the [e-Health Update](#):
- 3) Email OHIT staff at [mn.ehealth@state.mn.us](mailto:mn.ehealth@state.mn.us).

### Minnesota e-Health Initiative Mission

- Empower individuals, families, and caregivers to use information and technology to make informed health and wellness decisions.
- Promote research and implementation of evidence-based policies to support best practices and improve outcomes.
- Improve community and public health through timely and actionable information.
- Support providers, care teams, and services in the collection, use and sharing of information through technology and health information exchange.
- Use information to advance knowledge, wisdom, and practice by assuring:
  - Strong leadership and strategic collaborations that support innovation and stay informed of trends influencing health and technology.
  - Well-trained and educated e-health-savvy workforce.
  - Sustainable and adaptable resources for guidance and implementation.
  - Standards and policies for collection, use and sharing of information, including personal health and medicine and factors that influence health such as genetics, geography, and gender.
  - Protection of health information and patient access to health information.
  - Measurement of progress on the adoption and effective use of health information technology and health information exchange.

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