**Health Information Exchange
Strategic and Operational Plan Profile**

Overview

Illinois is the fifth most populous state in the country with a diverse geography and population. It boasts the third largest metropolitan area in the country (Chicago-metro) along with many agricultural areas throughout the rest of the state. The Illinois General Assembly appropriated $3 million in 2009 for HIE planning among 16 medical trading areas covering the entire state. That investment resulted in plans for five regional HIE entities that intend to become operational in 2011. The Illinois Strategic and Operational Plan leverages their existing investments in these entities in an effort to foster HIE growth and trust at local levels, while providing simple and accessible state-level HIE services that will enable meaningful use in the short and long term. They will engage regional HIE entities to promote HIE across the state and support their Direct solution through provider education and outreach, provider directory development, and provision of HISP services. The Illinois Plan also capitalizes on the policy and purchasing levers at their disposal to target gaps in pharmacy and lab connectivity. They will take a two-phased approach to supporting provider achievement of meaningful use and enabling statewide HIE.

Model and Services

Phase I – In the first phase, Illinois will develop a web-based authoritative provider directory and a statewide secure messaging service using Direct Project protocols. All providers, hospitals, and labs within the state will have the opportunity to utilize these services and the state will encourage providers to do so for both the delivery of structured lab results and patient care summary exchange. Given Illinois' historically strong stakeholder buy-in, and its desire to encourage emerging regional HIE development, the state will work with local HIEs and its two RECs to provide technical assistance to providers looking to take advantage of the Direct solution. Illinois will also work with its HIEs, RECs and stakeholder organizations to (1) ensure all providers, hospitals, and labs within the state know about the opportunity to utilize secure messaging services and, (2) ensure there are accessible HISP services for all providers and hospitals in every corner of the state. All these stakeholder entities will work together to encourage certified EHR vendors to implement the secure messaging solution with Direct Project specifications in their products.

State: Illinois

HIT Coordinator:
Laura Zaremba

Statewide HIE:
Illinois Health Information Exchange (ILHIE)

Award Amount:
$18,837,639

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Other Related ONC funding in Illinois:
Chicago Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center, $7,649,533

Illinois Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center, $7,546,000

Strategic HIT Advanced Research Project (SHARP) Grant to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, $15,000,000

Phase II – During Phase II, Illinois will take a thoughtful approach to developing more robust state-level shared services based on the lessons they learn during their Phase I implementation and advancement of regional HIE services through 2011. Currently, Illinois envisions developing several additional directory services, including public health and payer directories, a master patient index, expanded authentication and audit services, and a record locator service to enable regional HIE, enterprise HIE, and provider connectivity across the state, between states, and with federal partners via an NHIN gateway. Illinois statute also gives the state-level HIE authority to develop criteria and certify HIE entities before allowing them to connect via the state's shared services.

Highlights

- **Stakeholder Support.** Illinois' recent financial investments and stakeholder engagement prior to and during their State HIE CAP activities has generated a sense of shared ownership and trust among public and private leaders within the state. Illinois recognizes the importance of their convening and oversight functions in bringing HIE leaders to the table, particularly as HIEs emerge and likely compete in the future for portions of the state's HIE market. Illinois is taking an inclusive approach to engaging stakeholders throughout their HIE implementation and decision-making processes.

- **Policy and Purchasing Levers.** Illinois is working with their Medicaid program to explore options for requiring labs to transmit results electronically using standards-based terminology in order to receive Medicaid reimbursement. They are also pursuing additional contracting levers in an effort to motivate local and national labs to use LOINC consistently.

- **Open Provider Directory.** To fully enable a statewide identity management service that can serve multiple known and emerging needs, Illinois' directories will contain a broad complement of information for health care providers ranging from physicians to long term care providers and labs. Illinois will make final decisions about data sources for the provider directory based on input and directory plans from their HIEs; however, they also have access to data that could feed a directory from the Department of Professional Regulation's database of licensed professionals and the Medicaid provider directory. Illinois will make its identity management directories broadly available.

- **Value-Added Registries.** Illinois is working collaboratively with their Public Health Departments to identify ways they might leverage HIE to support emerging public health needs in the future. These include a focus on cancer registries and traumatic brain injury registries.

Meaningful Use

	Landscape	Strategy

E-Prescribing	• 93% of community pharmacies in IL capable of receiving eRx; however, only 60% of independent pharmacies capable of receiving eRx	• Illinois will focus their energies on addressing their largest gap among independent pharmacies within the state through a number of avenues.
		
		    o First, they will conduct outreach to independent pharmacies in collaboration with the independent pharmacist's professional association to encourage adoption of eRx capability.
		
		    o They will also work with the professional association and other HIE stakeholders to set goals for pharmacy connectivity and eRx participation. They will track and monitor their progress through surveys and focus groups geared toward cataloging developments and providing a better understanding of barriers to pharmacy connectivity.

Structured Lab Results	• Approximately 61% of labs within the state provide electronic results delivery	• Illinois will take a multi-pronged approach to enabling delivery of structured lab results. First, they will support secure messaging using Direct Project specs and standards for delivery of structured results. Working with HIEs and RECs to provide technical assistance for those who want to take advantage of this service will help ensure success. • Illinois is also exploring options with their Medicaid program to require labs to transmit results electronically using standards-based terminology in order to receive Medicaid reimbursement. • Finally, they are exploring additional contracting levers to motivate local and national labs to use LOINC coding.
Patient Care Summary	• The exchange of full patient care summaries across unaffiliated organizations in not currently occurring in IL.	• Illinois will support secure messaging using Direct Project specs and standards for exchange of patient care summaries across unaffiliated organizations. Working with HIEs and RECs to provide technical assistance for those who want to take advantage of this service will help ensure success. • Long term, Illinois envisions developing more robust shared services at the state level that would support query functions across regional HIEs, other HIE entities, and providers to facilitate more complete patient care summary exchange.

HIE Inventory

Standards		Quality Improvement	
Nationwide Health Information Network Exchange Specifications		Care Coordination	
Nationwide Health Information Network CONNECT		Quality Reporting	
Nationwide Health Information Network DIRECT	X	Behavioral Health Information Exchange	
Plans to exchange with federal agencies or other states via Nationwide Health Information specifications	X	**Lab Strategy**	
Public Health		Translation services	
Electronic lab reporting of notifiable conditions		EHR interface	
Syndromic surveillance		Policy strategy	X
Immunization data to an immunization registry	X	Order Compendium	
Patient Engagement		Bi-Directional	
Patient Access/PHR		Alignment with CLIA	
Blue Button		**E-Prescribing**	
Patient Outreach		Medication History	
Privacy and Security		Incentive or grants to independents	
Privacy and Security Framework based on FIPS		Plan for controlled substance	
Individual choice (Opt In/Opt Out/hybrid)	TBD	Set goal for 100% participation	
Authentication Services	X	Controlled substance strategy	
Audit Log	X	**Care Summaries**	
Administrative Simplification		Translation services	
Electronic eligibility verification		CCD/CCR Repository	
Electronic claims transactions		**Directories**	
Vendor		Provider Directory	X
Planning		Master Patient Index	X
Core Services		Record Locator Services	X
		Health Plan Directory	
		Directory of licensed clinical laboratories	X

Information for this profile was obtained from the approved Operational and Strategic Plan submitted to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology as a condition of the Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement. The complete plan can be downloaded at: http://statehieresources.org/