

What is a health information exchange?

A Health Information Exchange (HIE) is a system for improving health care and saving valuable time.

How it works: Data feeds from healthcare providers across the state flow into a centralized system allowing participating providers to display a full medical history for patients that includes data from all their various care team members.

The exchange allows providers, nurses, case managers, and other care team members involved in a patient's care, to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital medical information electronically – improving the speed, quality, safety, and reducing the cost of patient care.

Why is an HIE important?

Despite the widespread availability of secure electronic data transfer, most Americans' medical information from their different providers is not easily available electronically at any one point of service – creating an inefficient, time-consuming system. HIEs across the country are helping solve this problem by bringing substantial value to providers and those they serve.

The benefits of OKSHINE:

- Improving Health Care Quality
- Making Care More Efficient
- Streamlining Administrative Tasks
- Engaging Patients
- Supporting Community Health



Oklahoma State Health Information Network & Exchange - OKSHINE

Oklahoma HIE – The Past

Two private HIEs have been in existence in Oklahoma for several years, and while they have a robust clientele that extends across Oklahoma and beyond its borders, direct data sharing between them currently does not exist. In 2010, Oklahoma Health Information Exchange Trust (OHiet) was created to support State Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement Program (SHIECAP) to achieve statewide interoperability. SHIECAP and ONC funds were expended, and in 2016, OHiet was eliminated and unfortunately unable to achieve statewide interoperability prior to elimination.

Oklahoma's state agencies have historically experienced challenges in sharing data across departments. In 2015, a group named DISCUSS, agreed to create a shared-services state agency HIE that would facilitate the sharing of the state's data across agencies by linking the disparate systems. Orion Health was selected as the technology vendor to support this effort and was intended to address a known gap and serve a vital role in Oklahoma's health information data sharing capabilities.

A goal of the Oklahoma 2020 plan is to develop a statewide interoperable health information network to enhance health care delivery in Oklahoma by providing timely access to a secure and trusted health information ecosystem while protecting individual privacy.

Oklahoma HIE – The Present

Section 1-133 of Title 63 created the Oklahoma State Health Information Network and Exchange (OKSHINE) as the state-designated entity for health information exchange. OKSHINE is organized for the purpose of improving the health of residents of this state by promoting efficient and effective communication among multiple health care providers, as well as creating efficiencies in health care costs by eliminating redundancy in data capture and storage and reducing administrative, billing, and data collection costs.

Oklahoma HIE – The Future

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is pleased to be in negotiations with the board of the MyHealth Access Network (MyHealth) to develop a long-term managed services contract to operationalize the statewide health information exchange (HIE). The current network known as OKSHINE will continue to operate with Orion Health as the core technology platform, but the daily operations and governance of the network will move from OHCA to the MyHealth board and staff leadership. Their long-term experience running an HIE in Oklahoma, and their deep understanding of the value and challenges of doing so will be instrumental in building a true statewide network for all Oklahomans. Coupled with the advanced technologies of Orion Health and HealthTech Solutions, MyHealth will be able to move towards more advanced use cases and interoperability to better support quality care and safety. As contracting comes to an end, the teams will work with the MyHealth participant organizations to develop a migration strategy for data and systems to minimize the impact on patient care. Looking forward, the new team will work closely with the OHCA State HIE Coordinator to realize the vision of becoming a Top Ten state!