## **Regional Health Information Organization**

MedInf405 – Sec52 HIT Intergration, Interoperability, & Standards

Kary Mason Constance Nichols Michelle Neumeister Michael Rittenhouse

# Definition

### • Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO)

 A health information organization that brings together health care stakeholders within a defined geographic area and governs health information exchange among them for the purpose of improving health and care in that community.

Stakeholders

# Our RHIO Community

- Rural Community
  - 5 Hospitals
    - Spread throughout region
  - Diagnostic & Testing Centers
    - 2 Laboratories
    - 2 Radiology Centers
  - I Surgery Center
  - Physician offices
    - Associated with 5 rural hospitals
    - 100+ offices



# **RHIO Stakeholders**

#### **Current Stakeholders**

- Hospitals
- Laboratories
- Radiology Centers
- Physician Offices
- Patients
- Community
- Payers
- Vendors
- Public Health Agencies
  - City
  - County

#### **Future Stakeholders**

- Employers
- Pharmacies
- Long Term Health Facilities
- Public Health Agencies
  - State
  - National
- First Responders
  - Fire
  - Police
  - EMS
  - Military
- Additional Payers
  - Medicare
  - Medicaid

# **Business Need**

# **Business Need**

- The RHIO can help our participants improve their care delivery systems by:
  - Improving efficiency
  - Improving effectiveness
  - Medical record availability
  - Eliminating redundancies
  - Improving the flow of information
  - Increasing safety
  - Increasing patient satisfaction

# **Business Need - Savings**

#### Time

- Complete medical records are more readily available due to the RHIO
- Eligibility is more easily determined



#### Cost

- Repeat lab and x-ray studies can be reduced/eliminated
- Decrease repeat patient visits due to lack of information or test results



# Business Need - Improved efficiency

- Information available from multiple providers
- Fewer personnel required to "get" medical records
- Better reimbursement due to more complex visit with complete medical record being available
- Accurate billing of services
- Better use of physician time
- Legible documentation is available to RHIO members
- Admission information rapidly available and status of hospitals if need for transfer with bed availability data

# Business Need - Availability

- Medical records available at time of care
  - Available to all members of the RHIO
  - 24/7/365 availability (with technical support if needed)
  - Rapid access and identification is available to all who opt in



# **Business Need - Improved Effectiveness**

- More effective care through
  - Availability of data to support clinical decision support and augment guideline based care
  - Public health data readily available
  - Complete patient history data available
    - Crucial in emergency situations



# **Business Need - Increased Safety**

#### Accuracy

- Medication lists
- Allergies
- Adverse Reactions
- Diagnostic Tests and Results
- Problem Lists
- Patient Medical History
- Orders and prescriptions due to increased legibility

#### Awareness

- Physicians are aware of other physicians/providers caring for this patient
- Public Health surveillance is more timely and accurate



# Business Need - Improved Patient Satisfaction

- Referrals more quickly and easily arranged with complete data available
- Improved physician visits
  - Entire health history present, only needs to be confirmed
  - Visit is focused on listening and diagnosing, not re-gathering data
- Admission Discharge Transfer (ADT) information available and confirmable
- Patient controls access to record through Opt Out clause



# Questions

