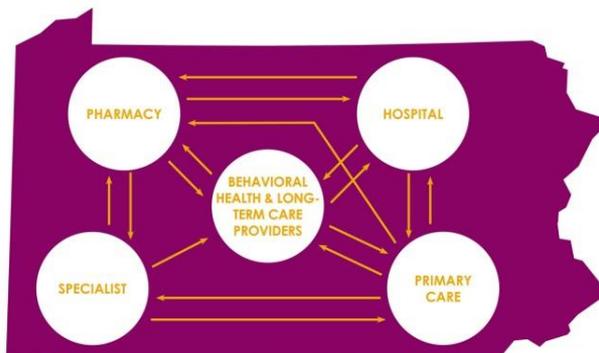


VISION

The vision for this pilot is that behavioral health and long-term care providers will be part of the larger health information exchange in the Commonwealth.

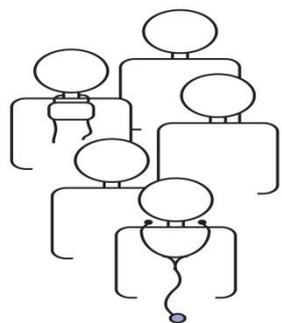


WHAT IS THE EHEALTH POD PROJECT?

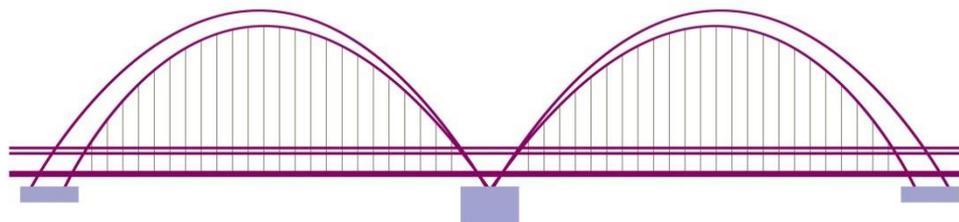
The Department of Public Welfare (DPW) arranged for Service Partners to provide technical assistance to behavioral health and long-term care providers serving a high volume of Medicaid recipients in defined geographic locations known as “eHealth Pods.” DPW is leveraging EHR and health information technology implementation to promote exchange and coordination. The pilot is intended to stimulate health information exchange through the exchange of continuity of care documents (CCDs).

WHY THIS PILOT?

Many behavioral health and long-term care providers (professionals and facilities) are not eligible for Medicare/Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, which results in a lower rate of EHR adoption and makes health information exchange more difficult.

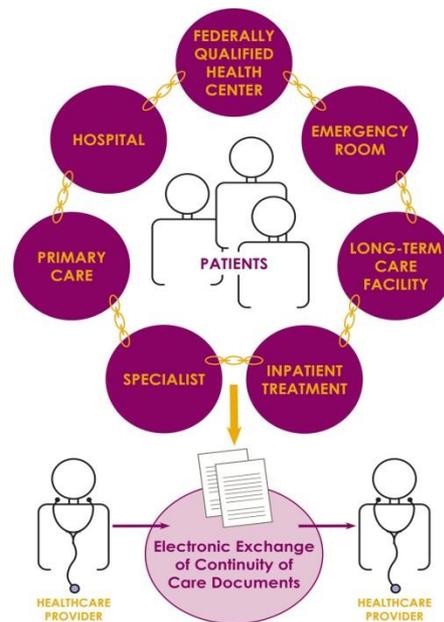


BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE PROVIDERS



The eHealth Pod Pilot Program:

Facilitating secure exchange of electronic health information in the Continuity of Care Document (CCD) between behavioral health and long-term care providers and the rest of healthcare community.



TOOLS

The CCD is an electronic document designed to facilitate exchange of protected health information and provide electronic summaries of the most important information, such as patient medical history including chronic or existing conditions, allergies, and immunizations

The screenshot shows a CCD form with the following sections:

- Date Created:** Wed Jan 21, 2009 at 12:55 PM
- From:** [Redacted]
- To:** [Redacted]
- Patient Demographics:** Name, Gender (Female), Date of Birth, ID Number (1117), Address/Phone/Email, Race (White), Marital Status (Married), Ethnicity (Unknown), Language.
- Table of Contents:** Links for Plans, Problems, Family History, Social History, Allergies, Procedures, Tests, Medications, Immunizations, Vital Signs, Results, Procedures, Encounters.
- Payers:** Table with columns: Type (Medicare Primary), Date, Identification Numbers (Plan Number: PwID: 0001), Payment Provider (Medicare), Subscriber.
- Problems:** Table with columns: Date, ICD9 Code, Description, Provider, Status. Rows include: Onset: 04/25/2000, ICD9: 430, Description: Gastroesophageal Disease Acute & Defined, Status: Chronic; Onset: 04/25/2000, ICD9: 430.2, Description: Gastroesophageal Disease Unspec, Status: Chronic; Onset: 02/21/2000, ICD9: 272.0, Description: Hypercholesterolemia Fam, Status: Chronic.
- Family History:** Table with columns: Date, General, Family Members, Problems, Comments. Row: General, Father, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

Features to Add for Behavioral Health and Long-Term Care Providers

- » Advance Directives
- » Medication Reconciliation
- » Treatment Plan
- » End of Life Care

CHALLENGES

- There are still technical issues with EHR software that makes electronic exchange difficult. Many pilot providers could not proceed without software updates or modifications. Many providers may need to invest in system upgrades.
- Exchanging CCDs presents workflow challenges, how is information used on the receiving end of the exchange?
- Long-term care providers are subject to survey and licensure requirements not aligned with health information exchange goals.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Seven eHealth Pod Provider groups have signed letters of agreement with Service Partners, which include Community Mental and Behavioral Health Services Organizations, Health Centers, and Long-Term Care facilities.
- Identified challenges and barriers to facilitate future electronic exchange by behavioral health and long-term care providers
- eHealth Pod Providers are at varying levels of CCD transmission. Some can receive but still working to push CCDs, and sometimes the exchange partners are not ready.
- Developed case studies, evaluation, tools, and other materials

EHR Explained

Bringing Health IT to Physicians and Consumers



Quality
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NEXT STEPS

- DPW will continue to assist behavioral health and long-term care providers by sharing lessons learned, toolkits, and materials through the DPW website and other venues.
- DPW will coordinate with Commonwealth and Federal partners to address challenges to health information exchange identified through the pilot and to accelerate efforts to accelerate HIE for behavioral and long-term care providers
- Providers will need to conduct a full workflow assessment and implement workflow changes to fully maximize benefits of exchange and should expand their “networks” of exchange, e.g., develop exchange agreements with new hospitals, facilities, and/or emergency departments with whom they share patients.