Public Health Gateway

The Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership

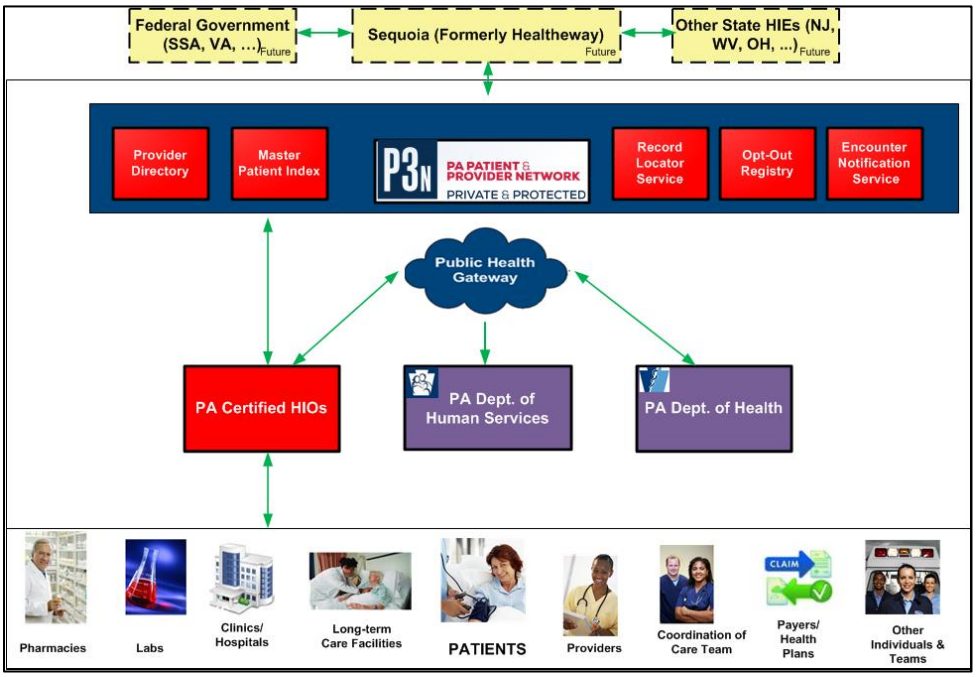
The **Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership (PA eHealth)** is enabled by Act 76 of 2016. PA eHealth's purpose is to improve healthcare through secure electronic health information exchange (eHIE) among unaffiliated organizations. Benefits of eHIE include:

- Better coordination of care
- Faster access to clinical results
- Reduced redundancy of medical tests
- Improved patient safety and healthcare quality
- Expanded public health monitoring and tracking
- Improved population health.

PA eHealth implemented the **Pennsylvania Patient & Provider Network, or P3N**, to enable eHIE in Pennsylvania—through the connection of healthcare providers to regional health information organizations (HIO), and the connection of the HIOs to the P3N.

The Public Health Gateway

Several state agencies share responsibilities for providing various public health programs. These agencies independently collect, store, and analyze health-related data, but their ability to communicate with healthcare providers—and often with each other—is currently limited. In addition, healthcare providers currently must submit data to multiple agencies through multiple channels—a fragmented, inefficient system.



A critical component of the P3N is the creation of a streamlined, uniform way for healthcare providers and regional health information organizations to submit reportable public health information to state agencies.

This component of the P3N is called the **Public Health Gateway, or PHG**. The PHG will provide a secure, single point of entry for critical public health data, including:

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- Electronic lab reporting
- Syndromic (disease) surveillance
- Cancer reporting
- Immunization registry
- Clinical quality measurement

How the Public Health Gateway Benefits Pennsylvania

The PHG offers a number of tangible benefits:

- Reduced costs of care and administration via performance improvements
- Economies of scale from the pooling of resources to collect, store, and analyze reportable health information
- Productivity gains through the elimination of multiple data-submission channels
- Simplified processes for submission of data to state registries
- More effective action in response to disease outbreaks