

Philadelphia Medicine



Volume 110, No. 8

October 2014

Regional Health Information Exchange continues to go live

HealthShare Exchange presents one of the most significant opportunities for the Commonwealth to utilize Health Information Exchange (HIE) to produce meaningful benefits for the healthcare system. Health information exchange among health systems, hospitals, health clinics, and physician practices has come to the Delaware Valley region, and is expanding now.

Other healthcare markets in the country already have these capabilities, and southeastern Pennsylvania and the greater Philadelphia metropolitan area are about to catch up — and enhance the exchange model with an inclusive structure.

HealthShare Exchange of Southeastern PA (HSX) www.hsxsepa.org is the nonprofit organization now serving as the region's health information exchange (HIE) with near unanimous participation of the healthcare community. What does this mean for doctors? It means a time soon when doctors in the practice office will receive electronic alert notifications when one of their patients is admitted to or discharged from a medical center.

It also means that the care team in the hospital will be able to determine a patient's recent medical utilization as well as his or her PCP, and eventually the broader set of specialists or other current healthcare providers. The patient's primary physician and other current caregivers will receive a discharge summary electronically, in order to optimize transitions of care and follow up. In the future, providers will eventually be able to query specific patient information from the system.

Moving to the ubiquitous patient record

As exchange evolves, the patient's healthcare insurer will receive faster elec-

tronic updates on care, in order to assist with case management. And at a later stage, patients will be able to access their healthcare information as well. HSX's Clinical Advisory Committee — made up of physician CMIOs (Chief Medical Information Medical Officers) — drives the clinical use cases for the exchange.

Through the committee's work and the work of many others, interoperable clinical records — accessible at virtually any point of care — are at last becoming a reality. And with better-informed providers, health information exchange will

HSX will prove uniquely robust among HIE's due to its support from, and design from the ground up with, healthcare payers. Major insurers in the area will deliver translated claims information and care-team intelligence in near real time to requests for patient medical record information.

improve treatment, reduce duplication of services, and make care safer for patients.

Today, virtually all hospital/health systems in the Delaware Valley are members of the HSX exchange. All are in different phases of deployment and implementation with information transfer over the system.

HSX will prove uniquely robust among HIE's due to its support from, and design from the ground up with, healthcare payers. Major insurers in the area will deliver translated claims information and care-team intelligence in near real time to requests for patient

Continued on page 3

PCMS NEWS

NOMINATIONS PLEASE!

PCMS solicits nominees for the 2015 annual awards to be presented during the President's Installation in June, 2015.

NOTE: All submissions should be sent electronically to: stat@philamedsoc.org by December 31, 2014.

Strittmatter Award — Honors a PCMS physician who has demonstrated to the Society the most valuable contributions to the healing art, surgical or medical. Forward the nominating letter(s), and candidate's current c.v.

Cristol Award — Presented to a PCMS member for dedication to organized medicine.

Requirements: Submit the physicians' names and list their society activities.

Practitioner of the Year Award — For excellence in patient care and community service.

Requirements: Letter(s) of nomination may be sent by physician colleagues, medical students and staff. Please include a current c.v. and written examples of community service.

The Dr. Vanitha Appadorai Vaidya Award for Humaneness in Medicine — Presented to a PCMS Resident/Fellow physician for their skills in working with people, patients, and their families and understanding human as well as clinical needs. Medical students, physicians and professional staff are urged to submit nominating letter(s) and include written examples of their nominee's humaneness.

Questions, call 215-563-5343, Ext. 113.

We're on Facebook!

Want to read more about your fellow PCMS members and medical history in Philadelphia?

Check out our new Facebook page
www.facebook.com/PhilaMedSoc



Philadelphia Medicine



EDITORIAL BOARD

William S. Frankl, MD
Corina Graziani, MD
Stephen L. Schwartz, MD
Paul D. Siegel, MD
David Woods, PhD

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

President

Anthony M. Padula, MD

President-Elect

Michael DellaVecchia, MD

Secretary

J. Q. Michael Yu, MD, FRCPC

Treasurer

Daniel Dempsey, MD

Immediate Past President

Curtis T. Miyamoto, MD

Executive Director

Mark C. Austerberry

Executive Offices

2100 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130
Phone: (215) 563-5343
E-mail: stat@philamedsoc.org
Web site: www.philamedsoc.org
ISSN 0031-7306

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any medium without the publisher's written permission. Copyright ©2014

Editor

David Woods, PhD

Production Editor

Norman Kline

For more information about our products and services call 215-351-5328
E-mail: HMI3000@comcast.net
or visit www.davidwoods.info

Get Healthy Philly sodium reduction campaign

by Anthony M. Padula, MD



This summer, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) launched a sodium reduction media campaign to educate Philadelphians about the health risks — including high blood pressure and stroke — of ingesting too much salt.

In Philadelphia, more than one-third of all adults and nearly half of African American adults have high blood pressure, and 16,000 Philadelphians have a stroke each year. The campaign's slogan is "Reduce the Salt. Reclaim your Health."

The Philadelphia County Medical Society has partnered with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health on a Get Healthy Philly sodium reduction campaign. As physicians, we all play key parts in improving the health of Philadelphians. In a few weeks, your medical practice will receive an announcement about this campaign along with a poster that we hope you will display in your office.

It emphasizes salt that comes from outside the home, including meals from restaurants and take-out places, and packaged foods from corner stores and groceries. We all know that cutting salt intake lowers blood pressure, a major preventable risk factor for heart disease and stroke — two of the leading causes of death in the US.

Even people who do not have high blood pressure can benefit substantially by consuming less salt. Recent research by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that adults are not the only ones eating too much salt.

Children and adolescents are also at risk. Reducing sodium intake during childhood can lower the risk of high blood pressure as an adult. Learning

to read food labels and compare the sodium amount in similar products is a tool people of all ages can use to lower sodium intake and decrease the risk of high blood pressure.

The AMA has partnered in the US Department of Health and Human Services "Million Hearts" initiative, which seeks to have 10 million more Americans get their high blood pressure under control by 2017

The Philadelphia County Medical Society has partnered with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health on a Get Healthy Philly sodium reduction campaign. As physicians, we all play key parts in improving the health of Philadelphians. In a few weeks, your medical practice will receive an announcement about this campaign along with a poster that we hope you will display in your office.

This campaign is part of the Department of Public Health's Get Healthy Philly initiative.

For more information on the PDPH work to make healthy choices easier, please visit www.gethealthyphilly.org. If your patients are looking for additional tips on how to reduce salt consumption, they can visit www.food-fitphilly.org.

Dr. Padula is the president of PCMS.

Federal officials say yes to plan to expand access to health insurance through Healthy PA

Federal officials have approved a waiver to expand access to health insurance and reform the current Medicaid program. The waiver, known as Healthy PA, will implement Gov. Tom Corbett's health insurance solution for Pennsylvania by providing coverage to more than 600,000 uninsured Pennsylvanians.

The initiative will provide coverage through private, commercial insurance that includes national standards around essential health benefits, mental health parity, and preventive care.

Benefit packages are anticipated to be similar to those provided in the commercial market to working Pennsylvanians through their employers.

Regional Health Information Exchange continues to go live *from page 1*

medical record information.

A partnership among competitors to make care easier and better

Federal and state grants, and membership dues from insurers and hospital/health systems support HSX, including its launch and ramp-up over the last two years. Exchange will soon expand to New Jersey and to Delaware's HIE.

HSX's goal is to integrate this exchange data as closely as possible with each care environment's existing clinical data/record systems and workflow. When the system is fully built, doctors will no longer have to guess their patient's history, past medical care, recent surgery or procedures, family history, current prescriptions, or allergies. As a result, they will also need less in-office paper work from patients and families. And, as HSX eventually becomes a repository for patient information, its potential to enhance population-health analytics is substantial.

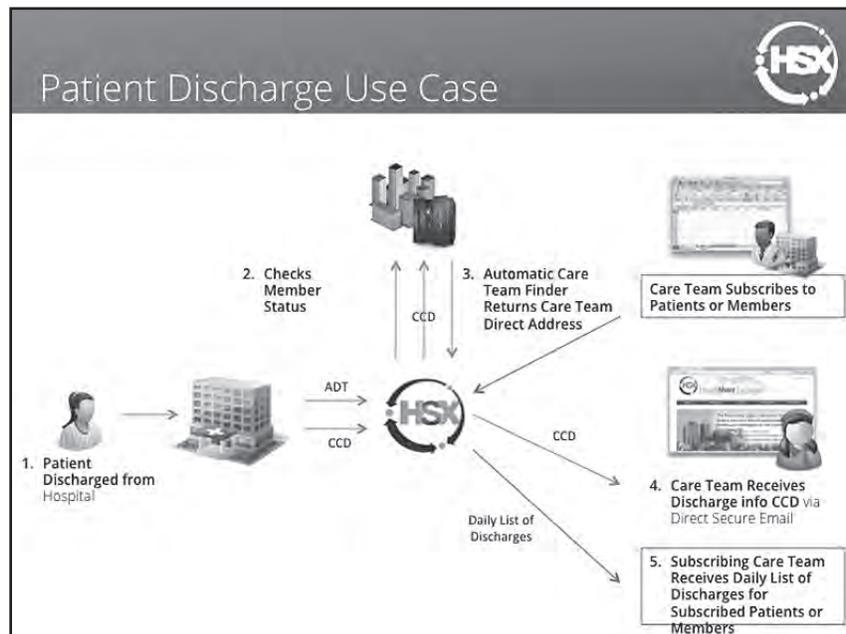
Secure, universal availability of patient clinical-record information to providers is a de facto part of the future of healthcare. Access to patient history from across the regional health system is a must for transitions, continuity, and cost containment. HealthShare Exchange of Southeastern Pennsylvania (HSX) is acting on that vision now with its partner providers and payers.

Volunteers needed for Doctors on Call, Tuesday, Oct. 28, at KYW-TV

Doctors on Call is a live TV program where viewers in the Philadelphia area call a toll-free number and ask questions of member physicians on any medical topic.

Member volunteers discuss with patients their concerns and answer questions in general terms. Volunteers are needed: 5:00 - 6:30 PM.

For more details, call us at 215-563-5343 x 113.



Pennsylvania Healthcare Cost Containment Council (PHC4) works to improve healthcare quality, transparency

According to a large study of Medicare patients conducted by researchers at the Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, Conn., hospitalizations for heart attack have dropped by 38 percent from 1999 to 2011. Yale's national study echoes the results of the report "Cardiac Surgery in Pennsylvania," released in November 2013 by PHC4.

For heart valve surgery patients, PHC4 found in-hospital mortality decreased 38% between 2005 and 2012, and readmissions declined by 14% between 2005 and 2012. For patients undergoing heart bypass surgery, there was a 53% reduction in in-hospital mortality rates between 1994 and 2012, and readmission rates declined 19% between 2000 and 2012.

PHC4 also found that between 2007 and 2012, there was a 12% reduction in the number of hospital admissions for medically managed heart attack patients, and in-hospital mortality rates for these patients dropped almost 20%. Other analyses show a 33% decline in the hospital-

ization rate for Pennsylvanians with heart failure.

PHC4's report showed statewide mortality rates for patients undergoing coronary artery bypass graft surgery and the rate of readmission within 30 days continued to decline in 2012 based on outcomes of 20,164 patients who underwent cardiac surgery in the 59 Pennsylvania general acute care hospitals that performed the procedures.

The findings nationally and in Pennsylvania underscore the dedication of Pennsylvania's heart surgeons and hospitals to the healthy outcomes of their patients and demonstrates how Pennsylvania's model public reporting program continues to help improve healthcare quality.

All events are posted on the PCMS website. These include CME programs and seminars from outside sources. If you would like to post your event on the website, call 215-563-5343, Ext. 102



pcms people

Upcoming Program

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia and The Philadelphia County Medical Society present:

Radiation Exposure from Medical Imaging: Issues, Controversy, and Evidence: A Physician's and Patient's Guide

Speaker: Harold Litt, MD, PhD, FAHA, FNASCI
Tuesday, October 14, 2014

6:00 – 8:00 PM Thomson Hall

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia
19 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia
Register at www.muttermuseum.org



Code Black Screening. From left: Anthony Padula, MD, Kinnari Patel, Mark Austerberry, Executive Director



State Senator Daylin Leach (D-17) presented at the PCMS town hall meeting on his effort to legalize the use of medical cannabis in Pennsylvania. Pictured with Dr. Padula and Mr. Austerberry



Official Publication of the Philadelphia County Medical Society • www.philamedsoc.org

PRSRRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SOUTHAMPTON, PA
PERMIT NO. 225

Philadelphia Medicine
2100 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130