How to Assess Opportunities for Building Health Information Exchange for HIV Care: Puerto Rico Experience

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Disclosures

Presenters have no financial interest to disclose.

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Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, the participant will be able to:

1. Describe scenarios of health information exchange in the HIV context.

2. List stakeholders to be engaged in a HIV health information exchange planning process.

3. Identify methods for assessing potential for health information exchange in HIV care settings.

Participant Worksheet

Health Information Exchange Assessment:

1. Use Cases

2. Stakeholders

3. Action Plan

Poll

Which statement best describes your knowledge about health information exchange?

a. Never heard of it

b. I think I've heard that term but I have to admit I don't know what it is

c. Vague knowledge

d. Fair amount of knowledge

e. Excellent knowledge

What is Health Information Exchange?

- Electronic sharing of patient data among healthcare entities

- Requires interoperability of electronic systems
  - Standards to facilitate interoperability (HL7, ICD, CCD, FHIR, etc.)

- Requires governance and agreements among entities

Why HIE?

- Access to patient's information across locations

- Towards the need to enter a piece of data only once

- Care coordination and better care

- Safety and savings

- Reporting

- HIV Examples:
    - HIV medication history available to a new provider
    - Capturing retention in care within a community or region

Types of HIE

- RHIO Regional Health Information Organizations, since 2005
  - master patient index

- Vendor-based networks
  - Meaningful Use component
  - directed transactional exchange

- In 2018 MU rebranded as "Promoting Interoperability" with 4 objectives:
  - e-prescribing
  - provider-to-patient
  - send-receive data at care transitions
  - public health (syndromic surveillance, lab reporting etc.)

- Consumer-based approach

- Future Trusted Exchange Framework for national exchange

Polls

I've participated in a Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO).

a.   Yes

b.   No

c.   Not sure

In what ways do you exchange HIV patient data across organizations?

HIE Use Cases

- Better communication across entities:
  - case managers can better follow up on referrals, care transitions, and track patients who access services at multiple locations if they have access to an integrated information system.
  - HIV providers have access to information from specialist visits, e.g., cardiologists, psychiatrists, oncologists
  - patients may access some primary care services in their own neighborhood but go elsewhere for HIV services because of stigma.

- Better data
  - E.g., measuring "re-engagement in care" across locations, community viral loads

- Finding patients lost to care

- Reviewing a complete medication history, e.g., when planning resistance testing.

Top Three Use Cases in Community Health Centers in Puerto Rico

1. Your HIV patient gets specialty care elsewhere (e.g., cardiologist, endocrinologist)

2. Your HIV patient goes to an emergency room or is hospitalized

3. You want to locate an HIV patient who stopped attending appointments

Puerto Rico Project

- To identify opportunities for HIE
    - Considered needs in HIV care settings and potentially useful HIE models
- To prepare HIV care settings for HIE policies
- To connect stakeholders
- To explore HIE use cases related to disaster preparedness
- AETC facilitated an assessment and an educational symposium

Puerto Rico Assessment Methods

- Literature and document review

- Stakeholder mapping

- Interviews and site visits

- Interviews of experts (HIE and HIV HIE)

- Small survey

- Analysis of Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan

- Rapid assessment: 4 months

Poll

What EHR system does your organization use?

Some Assessment Findings in Puerto Rico

- Many many data systems
    - Ex: 6 different EHRs in 8 community health centers
    - Role of CAREWare

- Strengths and weaknesses
    - Pockets of advanced systems and expertise
    - Electronic prescriptions are routine
    - Lab reports typically scanned as PDFs
    - Minimal electronic exchange of patient records

Poll

What are the biggest barriers to HIE in HIV care settings?

Top Three Barriers to HIE
(in survey of community health centers in Puerto Rico)

1. Data security concerns

2. Difficulty of establishing a governance structure

3. Lack of interoperability among technologies and standards in use

Puerto Rico Symposium (June 2018)

- Lecture by HIE expert

- Update on HIE related policies and trends

- Examples of HIV related HIE projects
    - LaPHIE in Louisiana, eCOMPAS in New Jersey

- Interactive group activity to begin dialogue about planning HIE

Poll

What stakeholders would you engage in HIE planning?

Stakeholders in Puerto Rico Symposium

- Seventy-one professionals from more than fifteen employment settings attended the Symposium (3 from U.S.V.I.).

- Eighty-five percent of participants were RW providers (A-B-C-D).

- Health Data and Quality Managers also attended.

- Included service providers, administrators, decision-makers, IT/data staff

Puerto Rico Symposium Evaluation

- Sixty-one participants answered the Evaluation Form.

- Most (95%+) agreed that the activity's objective were met, time distribution was appropriate, enough time was offered for questions and the lecturer(s) demonstrated ability to explain.

- Pre-post questions showed increase in self-reported knowledge of HIE in HIV settings.

- Seventy-five percent of participants rated their ability to apply the content presented during the activity in their work setting as very high or high.

Learning from Experiences in Puerto Rico and Elsewhere

- Ryan White funded SPNS projects on the leading edge

- Observations from working on data systems in HIV care settings

Conclusions

- Health Information Exchange
    - has many forms
    - can help with many HIV care challenges (use cases)
    - is not easy to achieve
        - governance, funding, privacy concerns etc.
    - the technology is not the hardest part
    - involves many stakeholders
    - Ryan White programs should assess and explore options for patient data sharing

Questions?

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If you would like to receive continuing education credit for this activity, please visit:

http://ryanwhite.cds.pesgce.com