

Work Plan for VHCIP/HIE Work Group

Overall VHCIP Project Strategy: Vermont’s strategy for health system innovation emphasizes several key operational components of high-performing health systems: integration within and between provider organizations, movement away from fee-for-service payment methods toward population-based models, and payment based on quality performance. We are implementing this strategy in a comprehensive manner – across acute and long-term care providers, across mental and physical health and across public and private payers. Our project is aimed at assuring a health care system that is affordable and sustainable through coordinated efforts to lower overall costs and improve health and health care for Vermonters, throughout their lives (excerpt from VHCIP Operational Plan).

Overall Goal of VHCIP/ HIE Projects: To ensure the availability of **clinical** health data or information necessary to support the care delivery and payment models being tested in the VHCIP Project, including those associated with the Shared Savings/ ACO, Episode of Care, Pay-for-Performance, and Care Delivery models.

How to Use this Work Plan: This plan is intended to provide focus to the VHCIP/HIE Work Group by beginning with the broad, conceptual State of Vermont HIE goals. These goals are not necessarily the goals of the VHCIP Grant, though many do align. Working from left to right, this plan lays out HIE Goals, VHCIP/HIE Objectives, and then ‘Suggested Supporting Activities’. The plan starts out broadly and moves to more specific detail, flowing from left to right. In later versions, it will include information regarding Measures of Success and a schedule, among other information.

HIE Goals	VHCIP/HIE Work Group Objectives	Suggested Supporting Activities
To improve the utilization, functionality & interoperability of the source systems providing data for the exchange of health information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and, as appropriate, invest in technologies that improve the integration of health care services and enhanced communication among providers • Identify core requirements for source systems to meet SOV HIE standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate EHR capabilities and interoperability • Evaluate and recommend technologies (such as APIs and SSOs) that would improve the integration of disparate EHR systems. • Identify vendors that meet SOV HIE standards. • Develop recommendations to improve the SOV HIE infrastructure through procurements such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Integration Repository ○ Provider Portal (Single Sign-on)
To improve data quality and accuracy for the exchange of health information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase resources to facilitate improved EHR utilization at the provider practice level • Identify and resolve gaps in EHR usage, lab result, ADT, and immunization reporting, and transmission of useable CCDs. • Improve consistency in data gathering and entry • Support the Development of advanced analytics and reporting systems as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand health information and HIT facilitators (such as VITL e-Health Specialists) to provide direct assistance, data quality workflow recommendations, and technical assistance to providers • Evaluate and implement solutions to bridge gaps in CCD/ADT/VXU and other message standards consistent with identified needs • Facilitate the implementation of workflow solutions necessary to clean and normalize data to improve clinical services and practice efficiency • Improve or develop analytic capabilities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Predictive modeling ○ Reporting portals and dashboards • Suggest criteria to be incorporated into RFPs for HIE grants or contracts such as the Clinical Registry, VITL Grant, etc.
To improve the ability of all health and human services professionals to exchange health information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate connectivity to the HIE for ACOs and their participating providers and affiliates • Standardize technical connectivity requirements to participating provider entities • Facilitate EHR adoption to current non-adopters • Facilitate connectivity to providers who are not yet connected to the HIE regardless of ACO participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement strategic recommendations for identification and transmission of EHR information including the data elements for ACO measures • Identify and develop data requirements to meet critical health and human services data measures • Develop strategic and operational recommendations and technical assistance necessary to connect all health care and community based providers to the HIE • Identify barriers and develop strategies for accommodating privacy and security requirements
To align and integrate Vermont’s electronic health information systems, both public and private, to enable the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Connectivity to other state data and technology resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop recommendations for HIE connectivity to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public Health ○ DMH and DAIL Data Systems ○ Survey/Assessment Data

HIE Goals	VHCIP/HIE Work Group Objectives	Suggested Supporting Activities
comprehensive and secure exchange of personal health and human services records		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VHCURES ○ MMIS ○ Eligibility Systems ○ Social Determinant Systems ○ Labor, employment and economic data ○ Analytics vendors ○ Others
To improve the ability of consumers to engage in their own health and health care through the use of technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify, review, and recommend programs and technology options for providing health information to consumers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research patient portal use and effectiveness ● Identify and review innovative programs or technologies, such as mobile apps, patient portals, etc. ● Make strategic recommendations for broad statewide advancement in providing health information directly to consumers ● Provide information on privacy and security
To participate in the development of policies, rules, procedures, and legislation, when necessary, in support of improved statewide HIE standards and EHR use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create an HIE governance structure to ensure the development of common HIE strategies, coordination of programs, and efficient use of resources ● Review existing policies/legislation and the challenges they currently present ● Recommend and support new policies, rules, regulations, laws to help the state's HIE be more effective and efficient ● Provide input into the Vermont Health Information Strategic Plan (VHISP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review and comment on any proposed revisions to the Consent Policy ● Review and comment on the VHISP, including suggested revisions to the HIT Plan ● Develop recommendations to support the exchange of sensitive health information, including especially from federally regulated substance abuse treatment (42 CFR Part 2) programs