



## Leveraging the eHealth Exchange to Enhance Maine’s Health Information Network

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*The purpose of this document is to share additional information on the recent connection between Maine’s statewide Health Information Exchange (HIE) and the national eHealth Exchange network, and how HealthInfoNet is working to prioritize eHealth Exchange provider onboarding efforts in alignment with statewide interests.*

### [About the eHealth Exchange Network](#)

The eHealth Exchange is a “network of networks” designed to facilitate the exchange of patient health record information nationwide in the mission of improving patient care and public health reporting through secure, trusted, and interoperable health information exchange.

As of June 2022, the network spans 60+ regional and/or state HIEs, five federal agencies (including the Veterans Affairs (VA), Department of Defense (DoD), United States Coast Guard (USCG), Indian Health Services (IHS), and Food and Drug Administration (FDA)), 75% of all hospitals in the country, 70,000 medical groups, 5,800 dialysis centers, and 8,300 pharmacies – encompassing more than 100 million unique patients.

Previously known as the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN) in its early days under supervision by the [Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT](#), the network has since evolved as an independent initiative supported by [The Sequoia Project](#) (formerly Healtheway).

### [About HealthInfoNet’s Connection with the eHealth Exchange](#)

Maine’s HIE is now fully operational with its integration with the eHealth Exchange network.

As part of the first phase of this integration, HealthInfoNet is now able to both respond to and return queries for health record requests for patients receiving care from VA, DoD, and USCG providers. The HIE’s Clinical Portal electronic health record system allows users with a role of ‘Clinician’ or ‘Clinician Administrative’ to easily retrieve their patients’ health records sourced from these eHealth Exchange participants.

To learn more about the features and functionality of the Clinical Portal’s integration with the eHealth Exchange, view our online materials:

- [Release Notes](#)
- [Online User Guide](#)
- [Video Tutorial](#)

### [Prioritizing eHealth Exchange Participant Connections](#)

With the VA, DoD, and USCG health information systems now connected to Maine’s HIE network through the eHealth Exchange integration, HealthInfoNet is working to incrementally onboard additional eHealth Exchange participants to enable similar respond-and-retrieve capabilities of critical patient health record information from external data sources.

Given the eHealth Exchange is the country’s largest public-private health information network, there are plenty of federal and non-federal healthcare providers nationwide to consider when prioritizing new connections. HealthInfoNet is currently assessing the network’s participants in alignment with statewide interests to establish a detailed onboarding roadmap, to be shared once devised. For a complete list of the eHealth Exchange’s participant network, visit their website [here](#).

In the meantime, for questions about our eHealth Exchange integration, or to suggest an eHealth Exchange participant to prioritize in our onboarding roadmap, please contact Chad MacLeod, Director of Product & Communication, via email at [cmacleod@hinfonet.org](mailto:cmacleod@hinfonet.org).

