

Texas Health Services Authority Provider and Consumer Task Forces Joint Meeting

November 2, 2011

2:00 pm

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Announcements
2. State HIE Update
3. THSA Website Redesign Update
4. Local HIE Profile Sheet Review and Discussion
5. Health Information Technology Public Opinion Focus Group Report
6. Future Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items
7. Other Items?
8. Adjournment

State HIE Update

Local HIE Grant Program

Current Status

- Quarterly Progress Reports
- Four HIE Business and Operational Plans Reviewed in October 2011
- Two HIE Business and Operational Plans Approved in September 2011
 - Healthcare Access San Antonio
 - Integrated Care Collaboration

Next Steps

- Auditing Provider Commitment Reports Submitted in October (40% of hospitals and physicians targeted)
- HIE Business and Operational Plans
 - 4 due in November
 - 3 due in December
- All HIEs Moving into Operations by January 2012

State HIE Update

White Space Strategy

Current Status

- Tentatively Qualified Six (6) Organizations
 - GSI Health;
 - Harris Healthcare Solution;
 - Inpriva;
 - Sandlot;
 - Secure Exchange Solutions; and
 - Surescripts.
- Developing HISP Agreement and Addressing Implementation Policy Questions

Next Steps

- Launch White Space Web Page and Provider Voucher Number Request Process
- Soft Communications Campaign through THSA and State-Level Professional Associations to Inform Providers of White Space Strategy and Voucher/Payment Process
- Timeline: November – December 2011

THSA Website Redesign Update

- Use of Summary of Redesign Elements
- Redesign Assistance Selection
- Next Steps

Local HIE Profile Sheet Review and Discussion

- Local HIE Profile Sheets Purpose and Status
- Draft “Second Page” Elements:
 - Governance Structure
 - Technical Model and Services
 - HIE Services
 - Privacy & Security
 - Sustainability Approach

Health Information Technology Public Opinion Focus Group Report



Public Policy Research Institute
Texas A&M University

Prepared for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission
and the Texas Health Services Authority with support from the State
Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement Program

Focus Group Participants

25 participants from:

Rural Areas

Brenham (7)

Midland (1)

Urban Areas

San Antonio (8)

Fort Worth (9)

Participant Demographics:

Gender

13 Females

12 Males

Age Ranges

21 to 25 yrs (7)

26 to 45 (4)

60 to 65 (4)

65 to 73 (10)

City	Brenham	Midland	Fort Worth	San Antonio
AM Session	4	1	3	2
PM Session	3	0	5	7

General Methodology

- HHSC selected the locations for the Focus Groups and provided an outline for the focus group presentation to PPRI
- PPRI staff recruited focus group participants, then coordinated and hosted the focus group sessions
- Since some participants may have had little to no background in HIT, the PPRI personnel presentation framers chose to focus on providing a basic level of understanding of the subject matter

Primary Topics of Public Concern

- Benefits of HIT balanced against its risks
- Extent to which private health information should be shared and with which entities
- Overall belief in the security of Electronic Health Records
- Which patient consent model should be implemented

Benefits vs Risks

- Do you as a consumer believe that the benefits of electronic medical records outweigh the risks?
 - Benefits > Risks (60%), Risks > Benefits (24%), Risks = Benefits (15%)
- Do you as a consumer believe that your records are currently being stored electronically by your providers?
 - Electronic (44%), Paper-only (8%), Mix (36%), Not sure/Unknown (12%)

Extent of Sharing

Regarding each entity that may legally receive health information: 1) Providers, 2) Insurance Companies, 3) Patients, 4) Public Health Agencies, 5) Medical Researchers, and 6) Marketers

- How comfortable are you, as a consumer, having your medical records being shared with _____?
 - Patients generally want more control
- What are the benefits of this exchange?
 - Efficiency, prevention of medical error
- What are the risks?
 - Human errors, hackers, identity theft, increased access

Security Question

- Does security improve or decrease with electronic storage and transmission of health records compared to the storage and transmission of paper health records?
 - Eleven (55%) indicated security would improve
 - Six (30%) indicated security would decrease
 - emphasizing hackers
 - Two (10%) stated the belief that security would initially decrease at the beginning as checks and balances were being worked out, but ultimately increase as system security develops over time.
 - One participant (5%) expressed uncertainty and questioned what precautions would be taken in case the system for a presumed central point of storage crashed. Would the system just release all the information?
- *Only 20 Participants explicitly responded to this question

Consent Model Question

- In general, what consent model do you prefer?
 - 56% Opt-In with Restrictions
 - 36% Opt-Out with exceptions
 - 8% chose “Opt-Out” because they “wanted to be completely out of the system”
- Is this the preferred model for all entities that may share health information?
 - Do you believe it should differentiate between exchange for treatment and exchange for other purposes?
- How do you, as a consumer feel about exchange in specific situations (emergency and disasters)?
 - 80% would support their original consent preference
 - 12% would support a “No Consent” model
 - 8% would change their opt

Significance

- Public opinion research is generally used to gather information about the **types** of opinions present in a population
- Findings from public opinion research are generally used to construct surveys that will be administered to a much broader population sample
- Findings from such a broad survey could be extrapolated to make reasonable assumptions about the **general prevalence opinions** present in a population

Next Steps

- HHSC is planning to commission a broader survey that will be informed by the findings of this public opinion research

Questions?

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Next Steps/Other Items?

Future Meeting Schedule

(tentative; changes or additions as needed)

- Wednesday, November 30

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