



Inter-Organizational Agreements Collaborative

Alaska

Guam

Iowa

New Jersey

North
Carolina

South Dakota

Challenge Addressed

Electronic health information exchange requires legal agreements that outline what information will be shared, how it will be accessed, used, and disclosed, and how the information will be kept private and secure. Recognizing that efforts to draft electronic health information exchange agreements and legal language can be time-consuming, the Inter-Organizational Agreements Collaborative formed to develop a core set of privacy and security provisions and to pilot test two model agreements for interstate electronic health information exchange—one agreement for a public health setting and the other an exchange amongst private entities.

Approach Developed

Through the use of legal workgroups, many of which were already established under HISPC phase 1, the members of this collaborative reviewed a wide variety of memoranda of understandings and data sharing agreements and worked to develop consensus on core content and language. The collaborative also coordinated with key groups such as the Nationwide Health Information Network Data Use and Reciprocal Support Agreement (DURSA) workgroup.

Using the model agreements they have developed, the collaborative plans to conduct a series of pilot tests to electronically exchange health information between organizations in different states. The first pilots will focus on getting the model agreement signed, agreed to, and tested by public health officials to exchange immunization records across state lines. Later pilots will focus on getting the other model agreement signed, agreed to, and tested by private sector entities. After the pilots, the collaborative will evaluate and document the results of the pilots, identify areas of success and in need of improvement, and review lessons learned.

Target Audience

- Organizations seeking to exchange electronic health information

Expected Final Deliverables

- Library of sample data sharing agreements
- Core privacy and security provisions
- Compare/contrast with other agreements
- Model agreements for data sharing
- Implementation user guide for model data sharing agreements
- Evaluation results of electronic health information exchange pilot tests and endorsement of agreements