

# The Progress of the Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE)

VITL and the State have partnered to build the VHIE in stages:

1. Help providers implement Electronic Health Records
2. Create a statewide network to gather health data
3. Build a platform for that data to be used by unrelated providers as they care for patients
4. Use the data for analysis that supports health reform and health system measurement

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## 1. How VHIE Has Helped Providers implement Electronic Health Records (EHR) (% using EHR):

- Hospitals: 100%
- Primary Care Practices: 97%
- FQHCs: 100%
- Home Health: 100%
- DAs / SSAs: 100%
- Long Term Care: 100%
- **Focus for Improvement: Independent Providers - % EHR uptake not as high**

VITL also supports practices in meeting Meaningful Use measures. Meaningful use is using certified EHR technology to: Improve quality, safety, efficiency, and reduce health disparities. In partnership with the State of Vermont's EHR Incentive Program, our consulting services may include a readiness assessment, workflow or technical adaptations, and clarifying the attestation or measurement criteria.

## 2. How the VHIE Network Is Gathering Data From Providers:

- Types of Data Contributors
  - 100% of hospitals are contributing data to the VHIE
  - 78% of Primary Care Practices are contributing data to the VHIE
  - 99% of Home Health and Hospice (VNA) are contributing data
    - As a result, 92% of Vermonters have data in the VHIE
  - **Focus for Improvement: Less than 14% of all other providers are contributing data to the VHIE**
- Types of Data Contributed
  - Laboratory, Radiology and Transcribed reports – All VT hospitals + 2 NH hospitals + 3 external labs
  - Clinical Care Summaries – 127 hospital and practices
  - Admissions, Discharges, and Transfers – 196 hospitals and practices
  - Immunizations – 216 hospital and practice data transmitted directly to VDH

## 3. How Providers Can Use VHIE's Platform To Care For Individual Patients:

A provider's ability to use the VHIE to care for a particular patient depends upon that patient consenting to have their data accessible by providers in Vermont.

- **30% of Vermonters have consented so far (175,165 individuals)**
  - 19% at time of Act 73 report
  - Implemented electronic consent from EHRs
  - 95% of patients when asked will opt-in
- VITLAccess (VHIE Provider Portal) is in use by 169 hospitals and practices and 2,864 individual users
- Since 2015, patient data has been queried over 750,000 times by users

- **Over 2,000 patient queries performed in January 2018, a 30% increase since the Act 73 report**
- VHIE Results delivers patient data (e.g., laboratory, radiology, transcription) to providers' EHR
  - 143,000 result messages delivered to 40 practices in January alone
  - **10% increase since Act 73 report**
- VHIE connects to Veteran Affairs Lifetime EHR
  - Over 300 requests/month
  - **VHIE has shared over 500 clinical summaries since HTS report**
- Direct Secure Messaging (VITLDirect)
  - 3000 messages exchanged/month by 200 users
  - 50,000 messages exchanged to date (e.g., discharge instructions, sensitive patient care info)
- Event Notification Data Service
  - 6,000 notifications/month sent to 312 subscribers (PatientPing)
  - Now sending to OneCareVermont's Care Navigator care management system
- **Focus for Improvement: VHIE to connect to additional Vermont Provider EHRs**
  - Working with UVM MC to integrate with PRISM
  - VHIE to connect to other State, Vendor, Regional networks "network of networks"

#### **4. How VHIE Data Can Be Used For Analysis That Supports Health Reform and Health System Measurement**

- VHIE data analysis reduces reliance on chart abstraction techniques to gather data for analytics
- VHIE data extracts can assist programs like the Blueprint for Health of Bi-State's Improvement Model
- VHIE data is being used to measure outcomes on key health reform metrics
- Of the All Payer ACO Model measures, three measures are reliant on clinical data from the VHIE
- **Focus for Improvement: Currently there is a 83% match rate of patient clinical messages to OneCare Vermont Medicaid claimant records**