

Ohio Health Information Partnership Delivers Consolidated Continuity of Care Documents to Support More Informed Clinical Decisions

SUMMARY

Challenged with a mandate to increase its value to the community and demonstrate sustainability, the Ohio Health Information Partnership determined the way forward was to become a health data curation and enrichment hub.¹ Providers were drowning in an ever-increasing volume of unorganized, duplicative clinical data from multiple sources. They needed clean, comprehensive patient data in order to make well-informed decisions at the point of care. Using Diameter Health's clinical data refinement solution, the Partnership is now delivering 90,000 consolidated continuity of care documents (CCDs) per day to providers across 10 health systems. By consolidating patient information from multiple locations and encounters into a single summary document, the solution enables clinicians to more easily identify conditions and therapies that need attention.

The Ohio Health Information Partnership, which runs the CliniSync Health Information Exchange, is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 2009. CliniSync connects 155 hospitals, 400 long-term and post-acute care facilities, and thousands of physicians and practices.

PROBLEM AND OPPORTUNITY

In 2018 the Partnership's Board of Directors determined that it was a strategic imperative for the organization to become a value-added data convergence hub for the community, especially in a national landscape where the relevance of health information exchanges (HIEs) was being questioned. Simply put, the first step was to get the right data to the right people at the right time, in a format that was easy to consume. To support this goal, they determined that the most urgent need was to give healthcare providers access to clean, comprehensive patient data in a summary view, which would help them to make well-informed decisions at the point of care.

Just providing more data was not the answer. The increasing volume of documents from industry- and vendor-specific exchanges such as eHealth, Carequality and Epic's Care Everywhere was compounding the problem and making it

¹ Gartner defines the health data curation and enrichment hub in the Hype Cycle for U.S. Healthcare Payers, 2019 report as "this technology brings together clinical, research, demographic, social determinants and lifestyle data from across the consumer/citizen/patient health and wellness continuum. The curation and enrichment hub prepares the data for delivery to downstream consumption platforms, applications, analytics and "things." It automates the ingestion of data from all identified and permissioned sources; provides tracking and traceability; manages identity, compliance and security; and facilitates agile data governance."

Gartner "Hype Cycle for U.S. Healthcare Payers, 2019," Bryan Cole, Jeff Cribbs, Mandi Bishop, 18 July 2019

even more difficult to glean actionable information. Further, clinical documents can be highly duplicative from one to the next, which can obscure important changes in diagnoses and medications. Finally, providers could not take on a new system that required additional validation and management. And with the impending Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) regulations from the federal government, which allow a receiving party in an exchange network to refuse to accept poor quality data, the quality of the data is as important as its completeness. As such, investing in the C-CDA standard, which defines the structure and content of Continuity of Care (CCD) documents, was important to the Partnership.

SOLUTION

The Partnership selected Diameter Health's technology as the solution to provide a consolidated clinical document report for the provider community. Integrated with the Partnership's data integration platform, the solution refines clinical information captured across multiple episodes of care and delivers it as a Consolidated CCD. The Consolidated CCD is an easy-to-consume view of the patient's current health conditions, medications, and other clinical data points presented in a standardized document format. Diameter Health deduplicates information that might have been documented multiple times (e.g., medications). It also reorganizes information so that it appears in the correct clinical section. For example, a flu shot that was documented in the Procedures section for billing purposes will appear in the Immunizations section in the Consolidated CCD.

RESULTS



Less than one year after completing four hospital pilots, 10 health systems are online and CliniSync is delivering 90,000 Consolidated CCDs per day to members.



There are more than 500 different clinical data contributors today with 2,000 in the onboarding process.

The Partnership is receiving positive feedback from providers for the Consolidated CCD because providers now have access to patient information from other groups, which paints a more complete picture of patient health and the care patients receive. As a side benefit, participating organizations are also better able to identify systemic issues in clinical documentation such as incorrect coding and missing information and are working to improve the content they contribute.

“To continue to provide health information exchange successfully, it's no longer enough to simply transport raw clinical data from one place to another. Providers need refined, comprehensive, consolidated clinical information that fits within their workflow and supports their decision making. Diameter Health technology enables us to meet that standard for the clinicians we serve.

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