

Accountable Care Organizations and Health Information Exchange (HIE)

Gerry Hinkley

Co-Chair, Health Care Industry Team

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman

gerry.hinkley@pillsburylaw.com

ACOs and HIE

- What do ACOs need in terms of HIT? – share data, use data
 - electronic health records
 - data management
 - personal health records
 - health information exchange
- HIE organizations can be an essential component of ACO functionality

How HIEs Enable ACOs

- According to PwC survey: HIE participation is a preface to ACO participation*
 - More than 50% of the NCQA ACO Measurers are also meaningful use measures
 - HIE Functionality
 - Connectivity of disparate clinical systems
 - Interoperability of clinical information
 - Patient-centeredness
- * Designing the Health IT Backbone for ACOs, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, 2010**

HIEs and Medicare Shared Savings Program

- Proposed Measures for Establishing Performance – 5 Domains
 - Patient/Caregiver Experience – 7 metrics
 - Care Coordination – 15 metrics
 - Patient Safety – 2 metrics and 17 submetrics
 - Preventative Health – 8 metrics
 - At-Risk Populations – 30 metrics

HIEs and Patient-Centered Care

- Providers use HIEs to connect with other providers
- HIEs can assure validity and completeness of patient data
- ACOs will
 - communicate with providers via HIE
 - use HIE to manage patient identifies
 - provide patient locating services
 - establish registries
 - use HIE as a gateway to other networks

HIEs and PHRs

- Communication between providers and patients
- Communication between ACO and patients
- Appointment scheduling
- Drug regime compliance
- Patient alerts
- Patient education
- Health promotion
- Enables shared decision-making

HIEs and At-Risk Populations

- Identify groups of chronic diagnoses
- Manage immunizations
- Manage periodic screenings
- Monitor patient data
 - weight gain
 - tobacco usage
 - diabetic testing
- Confirm necessary drug therapies applied

Regional HIEs

- Open HIE Organizations (e.g., Regional Health Information Organizations)
 - Focused on
 - a geography
 - a patient population
 - a disease state
 - Multi-provider Regional HIE Organizations by their nature
 - different technologies
 - different standards for data sharing, credentialing, consent
 - politics of data – e.g. secondary uses

Private HIEs

- Private HIE Organizations
 - Among a system of providers
 - Interoperability is embedded
 - Enables exclusivity
 - ACOs will gravitate to private systems for
 - efficiencies
 - proprietary systems of care
 - differentiation of services
 - Shared EHR model simplifies implementation and operations
 - According to PwC survey, currently operating ACOs all rely on private HIE Organizations

Sustainability of HIEs

- Will HIEs be there when ACOs need them?
 - Most HIE Organizations are funded with governmental grants
 - State programs (e.g., New York, Rhode Island)
 - Federal Cooperative Agreement Program – About \$580 million for states to figure it out
 - Sustainability has always been the elephant in the room
 - Will ACO organizers step up to the plate and fund the infrastructure and operations of HIE Organizations to enable their ACOs to thrive?
 - Will ACOs turn inward and focus on Private HIE?
 - HIEs need to incorporate ACO support in their business plans now

Gerry Hinkley
Co-Chair, Health Care Industry Team
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
gerry.hinkley@pillsburylaw.com