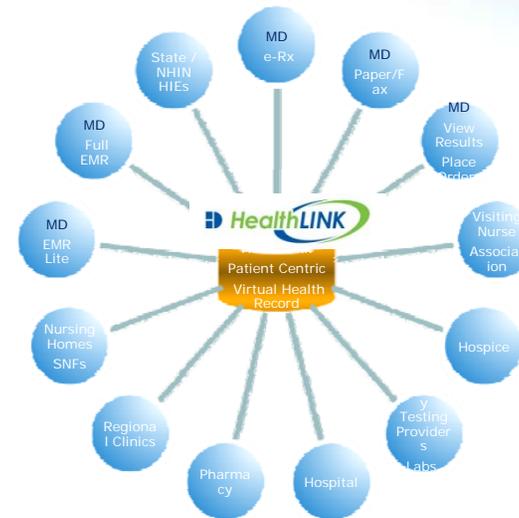


HealthLink Overview



Mission and Vision

Our mission is to advance the health and well-being of people in the community in partnership with those we serve.

Our technology vision is to leverage technology to achieve the highest level of integrated, quality, affordable and accessible patient care.

What is HealthLink?

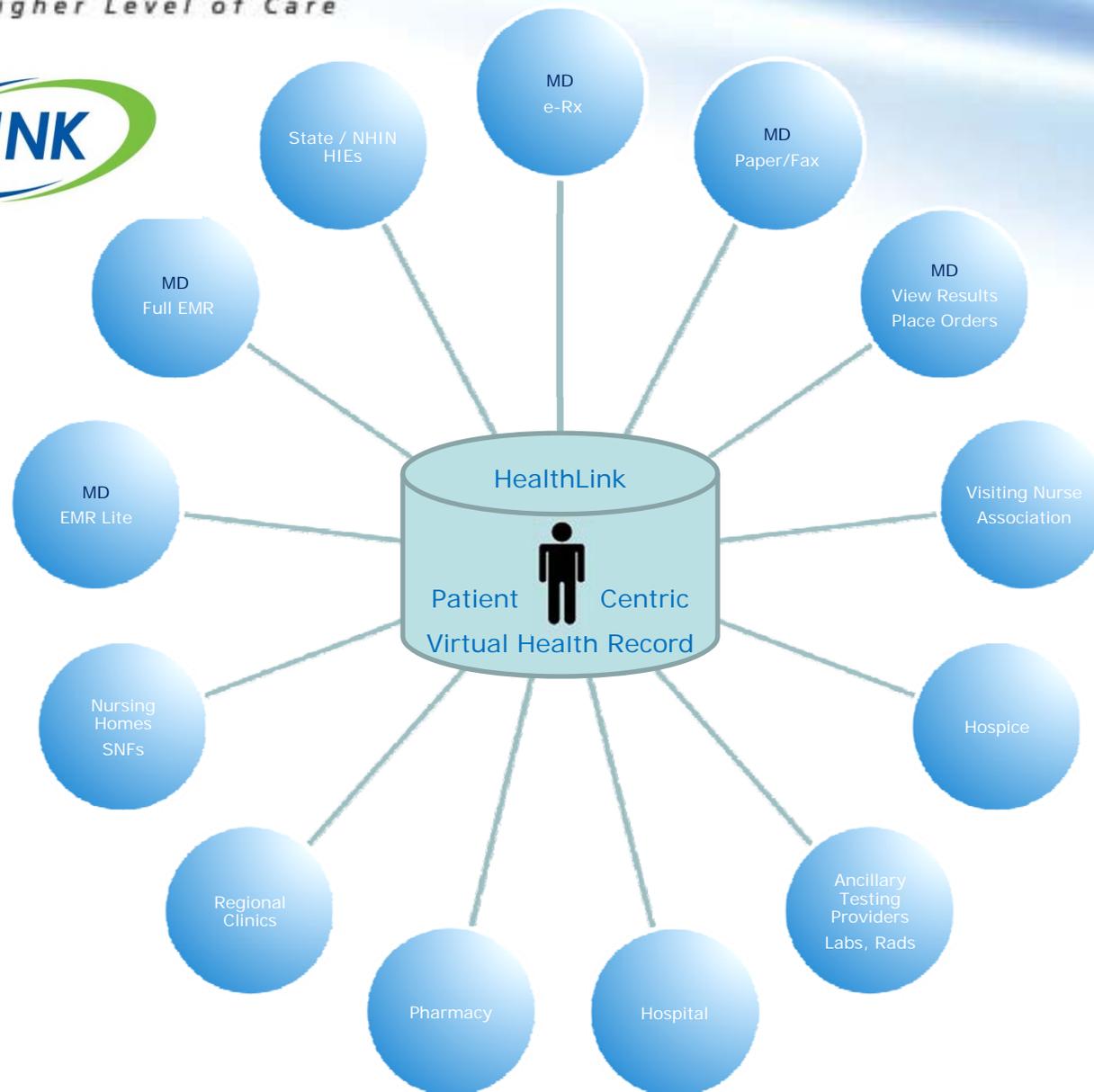
- Health Information Exchange with a patient-centric technology platform for sharing patient information between community providers to improve quality and reduce costs
- Repository for critical patient information (e.g., medications, allergies, diagnoses, tests results)
- Physician toolkit for ordering and tracking tests, e-prescribing, creating clinical documentation, interfacing with testing sites, and securely communicating between all care providers with a treatment relationship with the patient



All participants connect to the hub to via the internet to communicate with each other

Authorized providers can see a virtual health record of all shared information

Providers choose their level of participation and can change it at any time



Innovating to Improve Patient Care

- Driven by community physicians who recognized the inefficiencies in the existing healthcare system and partnered to improve the care in the community.
- Danbury Hospital developed HealthLink to provide secure collaboration tools that help practices implement efficient technologies to improve the safety and quality of patient care in the region
- Gives our clinicians the ability to make faster, more informed decisions
- Patients benefit from an enhanced healthcare experience with greater efficiencies and care team collaboration

HealthLink Benefits – Quality & Cost

- Enhance patient safety through e-Rx
 - ✓ Drug interaction and allergy checking
 - ✓ Legible prescriptions
 - ✓ Spans all settings, Inpatient, Emergency Department, Clinics, Practices

- Improve office workflow efficiency
 - ✓ Less paper to handle, drives tasking within the practice

- Reduce costs
 - ✓ Eliminate paper charts and associated overhead expenses for providers
 - ✓ Reduces duplicative testing for patients
 - ✓ Reduces costs for Medicare, Medicaid, Insurers, Consumers

- Easily collaborate with other healthcare stakeholders in the community
 - ✓ Immediately route clinic documents to treating providers
 - ✓ Speeds delivery of care and care decision making

Technology

- Standards-based secure platform
- Internet-based software as a service
- Interoperability achieved using existing and emerging data standards
- Data is both centrally managed and distributed to practice EMRs (centralized and federated models supported)
- Participants only need a standard personal computer and an Internet connection to access the exchange
- Exchange creates a Virtual Health Record on demand
- Will connect to Personal Health Records
- Will connect to NHIN
- Provides access to DICOM (Radiology / Cardiology) images
- Provides patient privacy, choice and is HIPAA compliant

Progress and Results

- Launched the first and still only operational Health Information Exchange in Connecticut in 2008
 - Qualified for Meaningful Use targets and able to tie into state and national infrastructures
 - Provides the “last mile” integration necessary for efficient and effective care
- Successfully completed HealthLink pilots in community practices; 92 practitioners live (12% of the medical staff). Rollout planned across the community; year-end projection of 40% of the medical staff
- Implementing the exchange for eRX in the Inpatient and ED settings to improve patient safety and communication in the transition of care
- *In 2010, the local clinics serving the underinsured, Visiting Nurse Association, and 60% of the medical staff will have HealthLink access*

Planning for the future

- Connect to the State and National Health Information Networks (when available)
- Connect with other healthcare stakeholders such as independent labs, imaging centers, nursing homes, other hospitals, school health centers
- Implement disease management programs across the community that are patient personalized and payer agnostic
- Expand disease registries for quality improvement
- Expand our patient portal and Personal Health Record interoperability
- Report on community health outcome and quality measures
- Use health information exchange products in in-patient setting to improve medication safety and improve communication in transition of care

HealthLink Funding

- Danbury Hospital has invested over \$2,000,000 to date on setting up the exchange.
- Another \$1-2 million is projected for 2010 to add providers, clinics and outreach visiting nurse association and tools to report outcomes
- Total investment is projected to exceed \$10 million for the region
- Opportunity is now to plan for the state infrastructure and provider connectivity
- Plans need a “last mile” provision to be successful and funding should be planned for effective outcomes improvement
- EMR integration costs (from EMR vendors) exceeds \$50,000 each
- Federal funding opportunities beyond incentives are limited

Success Factors

- Mission – commitment to improving outcomes
 - Quality, safety and cost reduction
 - Medication safety across all settings

- Vision – use the technology to improve quality
 - Successful adoption and use of technology by weaving the technology into the care process

- Leadership – effective collaboration between Health system and Community
 - Physician led, all working toward a common goal
 - Choices for connecting based on the physician adoption of EMRs

- Repeatable Model and Processes
 - Non-proprietary, standards based implementation
 - Participating and creating a community for sharing information



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