

## **Summary of WISHIN:**

The Wisconsin Statewide Health Information Network, Inc. (WISHIN) is the state's designated entity for health information exchange and has received this statutory status within 2009 WI Act 274. WISHIN is an independent not-for-profit organization, and provides health care information-sharing services to more than 2,200 sites of care in the network including 125 hospitals across the state. Of those 2,200 sites, WISHIN has more than 50 participating organizations in the Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls area made up of HSHS St. Joseph's and HSHS Sacred Heart hospitals, Gundersen Health System, Marshfield Clinic Health System, UW Health clinics, Black River hospital, Cumberland hospital, correctional facilities, post-acute facilities and Medicaid Managed Care Organizations.

## **Benefit to Patients and Providers:**

Following the closure of the HSHS facilities, WISHIN aims to ensure that health care information for patients who were treated at these facilities is accessible to other providers within the WISHIN network. This is to facilitate the continuity of care for these patients at their new health care providers and support patient safety efforts where patients seek care. Given many, not all, healthcare organizations are current participants, WISHIN can play a vital role in:

1. Exchanging information between healthcare organizations, which enhances the continuity of care for patients by providing access to patient information for all providers, payers, and healthcare facilities in the area. WISHIN Pulse is the service that provides a single-trusted source of patient data.
2. Reducing the staff burden of patient clinical information regardless of what EHR/EMR system an organization is using.
3. WISHIN will work with each organization to automate the access to clinical data if desired – at no additional cost.

## **Technical Effort and Investment:**

Specific to HSHS, WISHIN currently receives real-time information about patient admissions/discharges/transfers (ADT), laboratory and pathology results, radiology reports and clinician notes. WISHIN is actively working with HSHS to enable the exchange of care summary information via continuity of care documents (CCDA). What's remaining is:

1. Real-time CCDA provide & register HTTPS connection/exchange; and
2. Migrating existing VPN to another vendor which we're hoping to complete in the next few weeks.

### **The work above does not come at any additional cost.**

Completing the CCDA exchange will essentially round out the entire patient record.

WISHIN's vision to ensure there is access to all patient data from HSHS would be for HSHS to provide a patient-level CCDA download for all patients. To achieve this WISHIN would simply need a patient roster from HSHS with some demographic information and then HSHS to download all patient-level CCDAs for each of everyone of its patients. WISHIN will then process all point in time patient history into the network to be accessible to any provider a patient is seeing or providing healthcare services. This is something

WISHIN could accomplish reasonably quickly in coordination with HSHS & Epic; WISHIN's vendor(s) stand ready to support.

The estimated cost for this patient roster and "CCDA download" project would be \$15,000 one-time. WISHIN does not have a funding source identified for this effort but if cost is a barrier, WISHIN will figure it out itself or in partnership with DHS/DMS to assist.

## **Current Gap:**

Prevea Health leverages the HSHS Epic instance but is not a contracted entity to contribute data to WISHIN. They made this decision years ago; however, through a one-page amendment we can get this done very quickly and I will not charge any additional fees to include Prevea Health data – which I believe is absolutely necessary to ensure the continuity of care for patients and patient safety as they seek care elsewhere.

**Last**, for those providers in the area which are not WISHIN participants, WISHIN will offer access to WISHIN Pulse at no fee for at least 6 months. This is something that we can discuss at a future date.

## **Contacts at HSHS:**

WISHIN's business, technical, contract, and legal contacts at HSHS are:

- Cox, Bill W <[Harold.Cox@hshs.org](mailto:Harold.Cox@hshs.org)>
- Peiffer, Susan E <[Susan.Peiffer@hshs.org](mailto:Susan.Peiffer@hshs.org)>
- Conkrite, Megan M <[Megan.Conkrite@hshs.org](mailto:Megan.Conkrite@hshs.org)>
- Emily Sylla <[emily.sylla@hshs.org](mailto:emily.sylla@hshs.org)>

## **WISHIN Contacts:**

- Steve Rottmann, CEO <[srottmann@wishin.org](mailto:srottmann@wishin.org)>
- Laura Widder, Project Director <[lwidder@wishin.org](mailto:lwidder@wishin.org)>
- Matt Gigot, Director of PopHealth and Analytics <[mgigot@wishin.org](mailto:mgigot@wishin.org)>
- Greg Stadter, Director of Operations <[gstadter@wishin.org](mailto:gstadter@wishin.org)>