TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

Board of Directors Meeting

December 3, 2021

10:00 AM Central Time

Virtual Meeting:

- https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9305720817

- Phone number: 1-312-626-6799

- Meeting ID: 930-572-0817

MEETING AGENDA

Time	Item
I. Introduction	
10:00 AM	A. Call to order, welcome, introductions, and announcements
II. Presentations, Reports and Board Business	
10:05 AM – 10:30 AM	A. Board Training on Public Information Act, Conflict of Interest, and Open Meetings Act B. Regular board business 　　i.　Consideration of minutes of the August 20, 2021 board meeting – **ACTION ITEM** 　　ii.　Consideration of FY 2021 Q4 financial statements – **ACTION ITEM** 　　iii.　Consideration of amendment to the FY2022 budget – **ACTION ITEM**

MEETING AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Time	Item
III. Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs	
10:30 AM – 10:55 AM	A. Update on Health Information Exchange Services i. Update on current status of HIETexas EDEN ii. Update on current status of HIETexas PULSE iii. Update on current status of STAR HIE Cooperative Agreement – SANER Project
10:55 AM – 11:00 AM	B. Update on SECURETexas: Health Information Privacy and Security Certification
11:00 AM – 11:05 AM	C. Update on THSA Councils and Work Groups

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MEETING AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Time	Item
IV. Information Items	
11:05 AM – 11:15 AM	A. Future Meeting Schedule B. Future Agenda Items
V. Public Comment	
11:15 AM – 11:20 AM	A. Public Comment
VI. Executive Session	
11:20 AM – 11:45 AM	A. Recess into executive session pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code Section 551.074(a)(1) B. Reconvene into regular session
VII. Adjourn	

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Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions, and Announcements

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CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS!

- The governor's office made board appointments on September 15, 2021

- 14 members appointed
  - 13 returning members
  - 1 new member
    - Welcome Cynthia Stinson!
    - We appreciate your service Lourdes Cuellar!

Presentations, Reports and Updates
Training on Public Information Act, Conflict of Interest, and Open Meetings Act

THSA Board Training
Public Information Act

- The THSA is covered under the Public Information Act (PIA), Texas Government Code Chapter 552

- Board members are required to have PIA training, please see http://bit.ly/29g2ovy for more information and links to the training video

- Under the PIA, information must be retained for a reasonable period of time; this is one of the reasons THSA has a records retention policy, which is available on the THSA's internet website

THSA Board Training
PIA Basics

- There is a process for responding to requests, including time lines and instructions for requesting that the information be kept confidential

- Determinations about whether exceptions apply in particular circumstances are made by the Office of the Texas Attorney General

- The THSA includes information about the PIA in all of its requests for proposals and similar releases to ensure third parties are aware of the Act and its application to the THSA; information is also provided on how to mark information as confidential

- Because of this process, it is **imperative that board members refer all requests for information to THSA staff** (i.e., if someone asks you for THSA documents, please don't handle the request yourself, but instead refer them to THSA staff)

THSA Board Training
PIA Exceptions

- There are a lot of exceptions – these are the ones we have used in the past and/or are more likely to use in the future:
  - Information made confidential under federal or state law or by judicial decision - for example, medical information that would be covered by HIPAA or the Texas Medical Records Privacy Act
  - Confidentiality of certain personnel information and certain personal information of public officials and employees (this is actually 2 exceptions)
  - Information relating to competition or bidding; also certain information submitted by potential vendor or contractor

THSA Board Training
PIA Exceptions Cont'd

- Information protected by attorney-client privilege

- Confidentiality of trade secrets and of certain commercial or financial information
    - Previously seen as applying only while the procurement was open; however,
    - A recent Texas Supreme Court decision broadly expanded a third party's right to keep certain information, most notably pricing information, from a contract with a public entity confidential

- Audit working papers

- Confidentiality of government information related to security or infrastructure of computers

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THSA Board Training
Open Meetings Act

- The THSA is covered by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551

- In general, the Open Meetings Act says that members of the Board who together would create a quorum for a meeting cannot discuss the THSA or THSA-related issues except at an open meeting – seven members of the full board or a majority of any committee membership make a quorum

- You are required to have Open Meetings Act training, please see http://bit.ly/29g2ovy for more information and links to the training video

- While the concept is sound, it can cause issues communicating between board meetings – **"reply all" on an email from a THSA staffer or board member to an email with multiple board members should be avoided**

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THSA Board Training
Open Meetings Act Exceptions

- There are a number of exceptions to the open meeting requirements

- However, a closed meeting can only be called during an open meeting and the exception being used must be stated

- The exceptions include:
  - Consultation with an attorney
  - Deliberations about real property or the acceptance of a gift or donation
  - Personnel matters
  - Issues relating to security audits or devices
  - Deliberation of economic development negotiations

- During investigations, a witness may be excluded from an open meeting during testimony from other witnesses on the same issue

THSA Board Training
Conflict of Interest

- Section 182.056, Health & Safety Code states:

  - (b) Any board member or member of a committee formed by the board with direct interest in a matter, personally or through an employer, before the board **shall abstain from deliberations and actions on the matter** in which the conflict of interest arises and **shall further abstain on any vote on the matter, and may not otherwise participate in a decision on the matter**.

  - (c) Each board member shall **file a conflict of interest statement** and a statement of ownership interests with the board to ensure disclosure of all existing and potential personal interests related to board business.

THSA Board Training
Conflict of Interest

- THSA has a conflict of interest policy that the board updated at our last meeting
- This policy addresses multiple subjects regarding conflicts of interest:
  - **Purpose**
  - **Definitions**
    - Conflict of interest, Familial relationship, HIE, Interest, Interested Person, Key employee, Transaction
  - **Procedures**
    - Duty to disclose, board meeting, determining whether a conflict of interest exists, procedures for addressing the conflict of interest, violations of conflicts of interest policy
  - **Presumed conflicts of interest**
    - Employees and/or board members of HIEs other than HIETexas/THSA
    - Interested parties with a familial relationship with a THSA employee
    - Representative of a party other than HIETexas/THSA in a transaction
    - Duty to disclose
    - Violations of the conflicts of interest policy relating to presumed conflicts of interest

THSA Board Training
Conflict of Interest

- THSA has a conflict of interest policy that the board updated at our last meeting

- This policy addresses multiple subjects regarding conflicts of interest (continued):
    - **Records of proceedings**
    - **Compensation**
    - **Annual Statements**
    - **Periodic reviews**
    - **Use of outside experts**

THSA Board Training
Conflict of Interest

- The board's listed interests are located in **Attachment No. 6 (pdf page 023)** in your attachments document

- If at any point during a board meeting, a board member believes that their own interest (disclosed or not) in a matter before the board may lead to a conflict of interest, please refrain from deliberations on the matter, and please refrain from voting on the matter

- If at any point during a board meeting, a board member believes that another board member's interest in a matter may lead to a conflict of interest on a matter before the board, please state such, so that the board may further discuss whether such a conflict of interest does exist for that member, and how to best handle the situation moving forward

Presentations, Reports and Updates
Regular Board Business

REGULAR BOARD BUSINESS
CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2021 BOARD MEETING – ACTION ITEM

- The August 20, 2021 board meeting minutes are available for review as **Attachment No. 1 (PDF page 002)** in your attachments document.

- **Action Item:** Does the board vote to approve the board meeting minutes as laid out before the board?

REGULAR BOARD BUSINESS
CONSIDERATION OF FY 2021 Q4 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – ACTION ITEM

• The THSA's FY 2021 Q4 financial statements are available for review as **Attachment No. 2 (PDF page 006)** in your attachments document.

• **Action Item:** Does the board vote to approve the financial statements as laid out before the board?

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REGULAR BOARD BUSINESS
CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO FY2022 BUDGET – ACTION ITEM

- The THSA's FY 2022 budget and proposed amendment are available for review as **Attachment No. 3 (PDF page 010)** in your attachments document.

- **Action Item:** Does the board vote to approve the budget amendment as laid out before the board?

Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs

TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

Our Health Services

EDEN
Emergency Department Encounter Notifications

Real time alerts to determine where a patient has been admitted, discharged or transferred.

PULSE
Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies

Remote and secure access to electronic health information during declared disasters in alternate care sites.

SANER
Situational Awareness for Novel Epidemic Response

Real-time and automated exchange of situational awareness data utilizing the FHIR data standard.

SECURETexas
Privacy & Security Certification

Privacy and security program to certify compliance with state and federal medical privacy and security law.

HIETexas

SECURETexas

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Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs
Current Status of HIETexas EDEN

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UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF HIETexas EDEN

HIETexas Service	Status
Emergency Department Encounter Notification (EDEN)	Fully operational

- **Current status:**
  - Connected to a variety of local HIE and direct data sources
  - Successfully developed process for reporting on CMS CoP compliance
  - Guidance materials for connectivity are available on THSA website

- **Next steps (more on next slide):**
  - Continue working with trading partners (e.g., local HIEs, Texas Medicaid)
  - Continue onboarding data sources
  - Continue adding data subscribers

EDEN DATA FLOW HIE CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

The data flow graphic on the right shows how data flows under the Texas HIE Connectivity Project
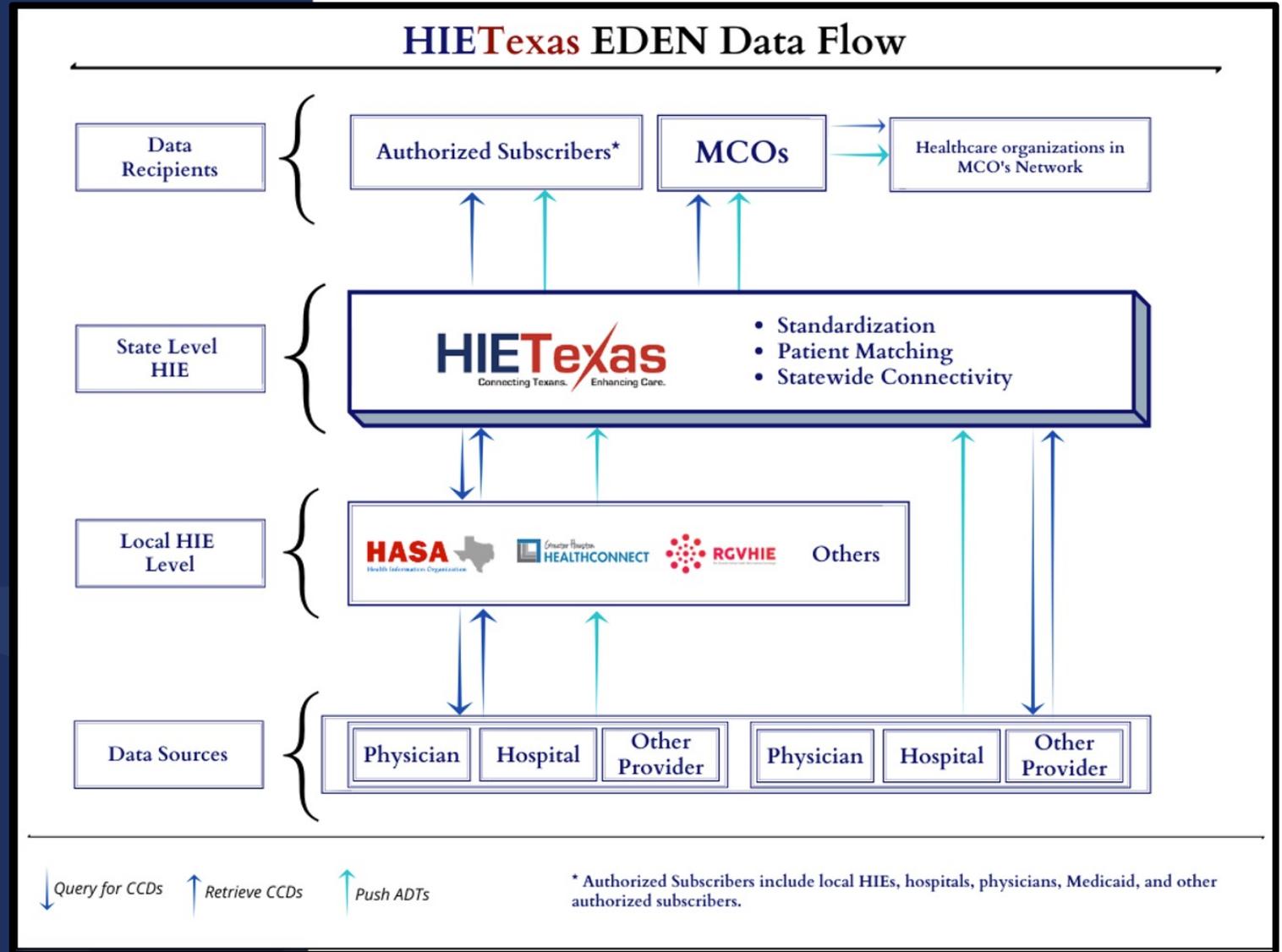
HOW EDEN WORKS

DATA SOURCES

Hospitals

SNFs & LTPAC

Local HIEs

Urgent Care

EDEN
Powered by Ai

1 — ADTs →

Patient List
2 ←

3 — Alerts →

SUBSCRIBERS

Providers

Payers

ACOs

SNFs & LTPAC
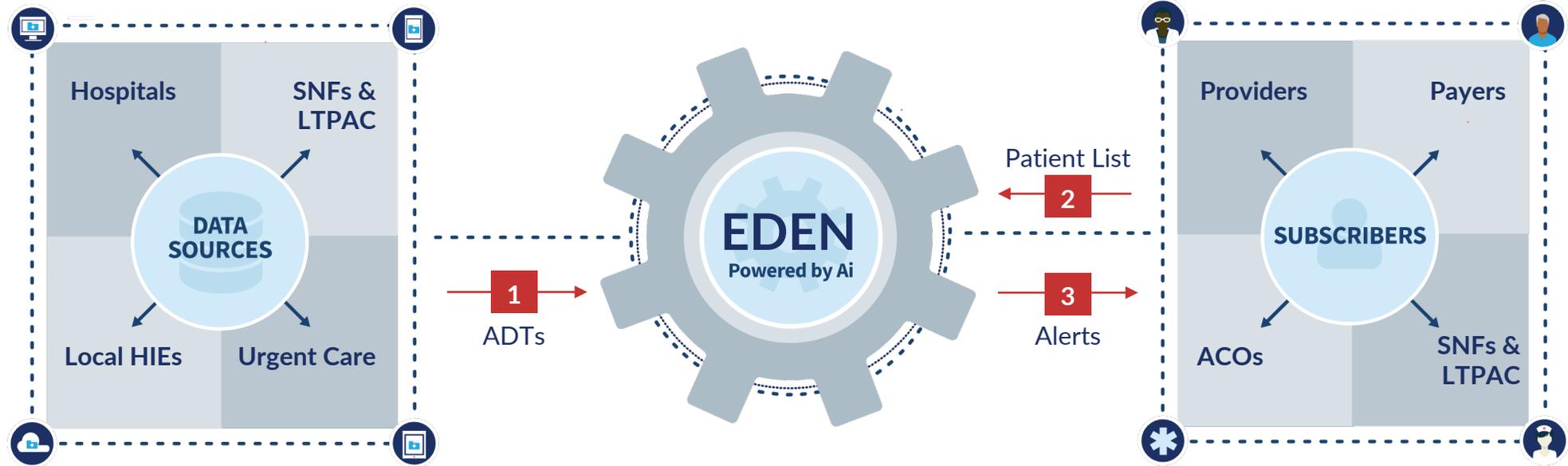
Data Sources (Hospitals, SNFs, and others) send real-time admit and discharge data to EDEN.

EDEN compares patient info between ADTs and patient lists and, if a match occurs, sends alerts to appropriate subscribers.

Subscribers (with patient consent) provide a list of patients on whom they wish to receive notifications. Lists are regularly refreshed.

EDEN receives data both directly from hospitals and local HIEs.

Messages received from data sources are purged after transmission. The only data retained are the subscriber lists.

EDEN serves as a single, standardized access point for authorized subscribers to receive alerts in a statewide capacity.
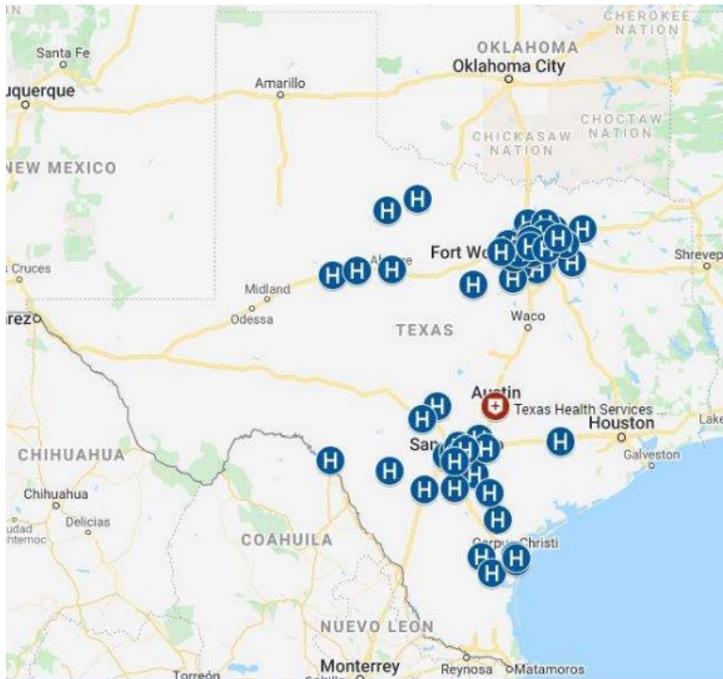
Aug. 2021	Nov. 2021
←	→
39 direct connections	42 direct connections
8 direct connections in progress	15 direct connections in progress
33 Connections via HASA	34 Connections via HASA
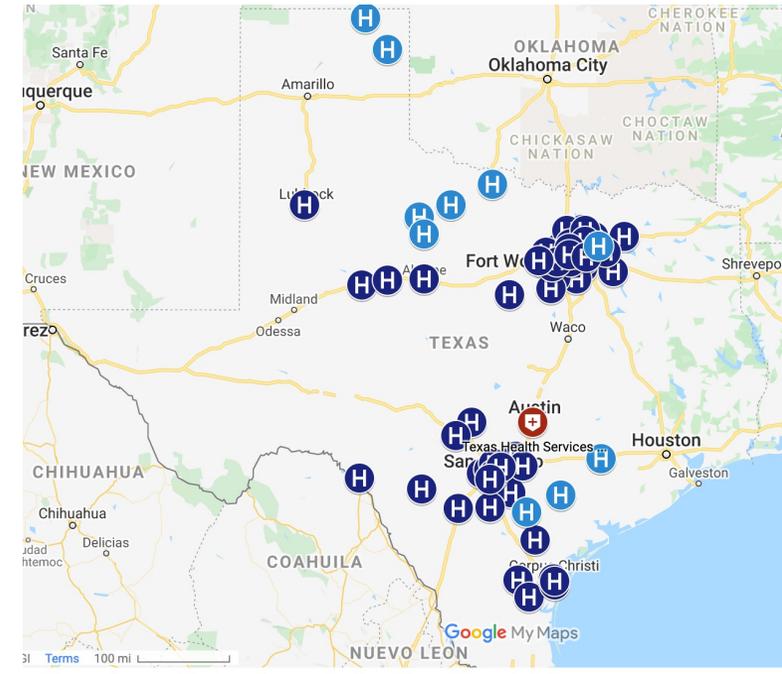
ADDITIONAL CLINICAL DATA

- EDEN can also automate queries to retrieve clinical documents (discharge summaries, etc.) and route those to EDEN subscribers as well.

- Leverages national exchange networks such as eHealth Exchange, Carequality, and Commonwell

- Provides EDEN subscribers with additional insights into encounter details:
  - Vitals
  - Medications
  - Labs
  - Procedures
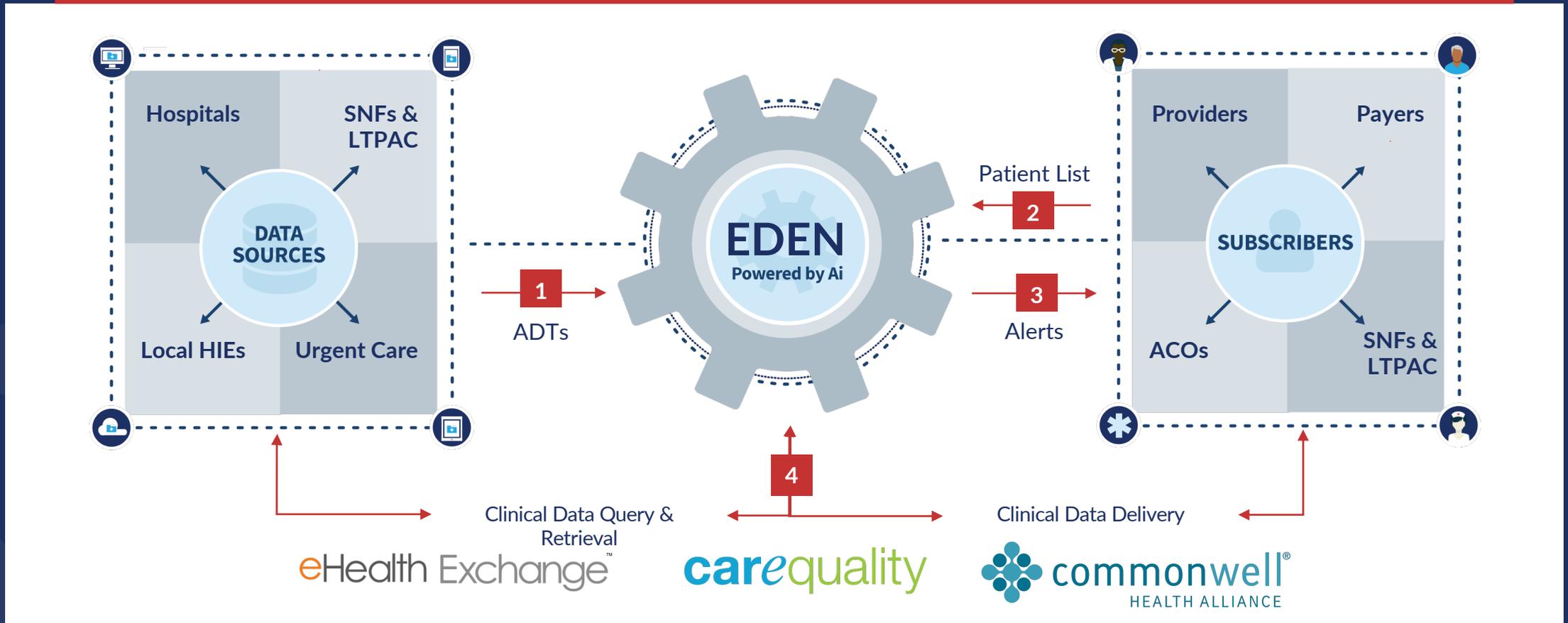
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ADDITIONAL CLINICAL DATA

Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs
Current Status of HIETexas PULSE

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UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
HIETexas PULSE IN THE NEWS!

- On September 6th, 2021, THSA, in partnership with Audacious Inquiry and BCFS, deployed HIETexas PULSE in Louisiana in response to Hurricane Ida.

- The purpose of the deployment was to (1) help out a neighboring state, and (2) validate HIETexas PULSE would work in an emergency medical care shelter environment.

Texas Health Services Authority, Audacious Inquiry, and BCFS Health and Human Services Activate HIETexas PULSE in Louisiana to Support Hurricane Ida Relief

HIETexas Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies™ (PULSE) Enterprise provides emergency medical response personnel in Louisiana with access to vital health information to improve care for evacuated residents

September 30, 2021 06:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

AUSTIN, Texas--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Texas Health Services Authority (THSA) and technology partner Audacious Inquiry, in collaboration with BCFS Health and Human Services Emergency Management Division, a global disaster response non-profit organization, activated the HIETexas Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies™ (PULSE) system to support the ongoing emergency response to Hurricane Ida. PULSE is a cloud-based web ap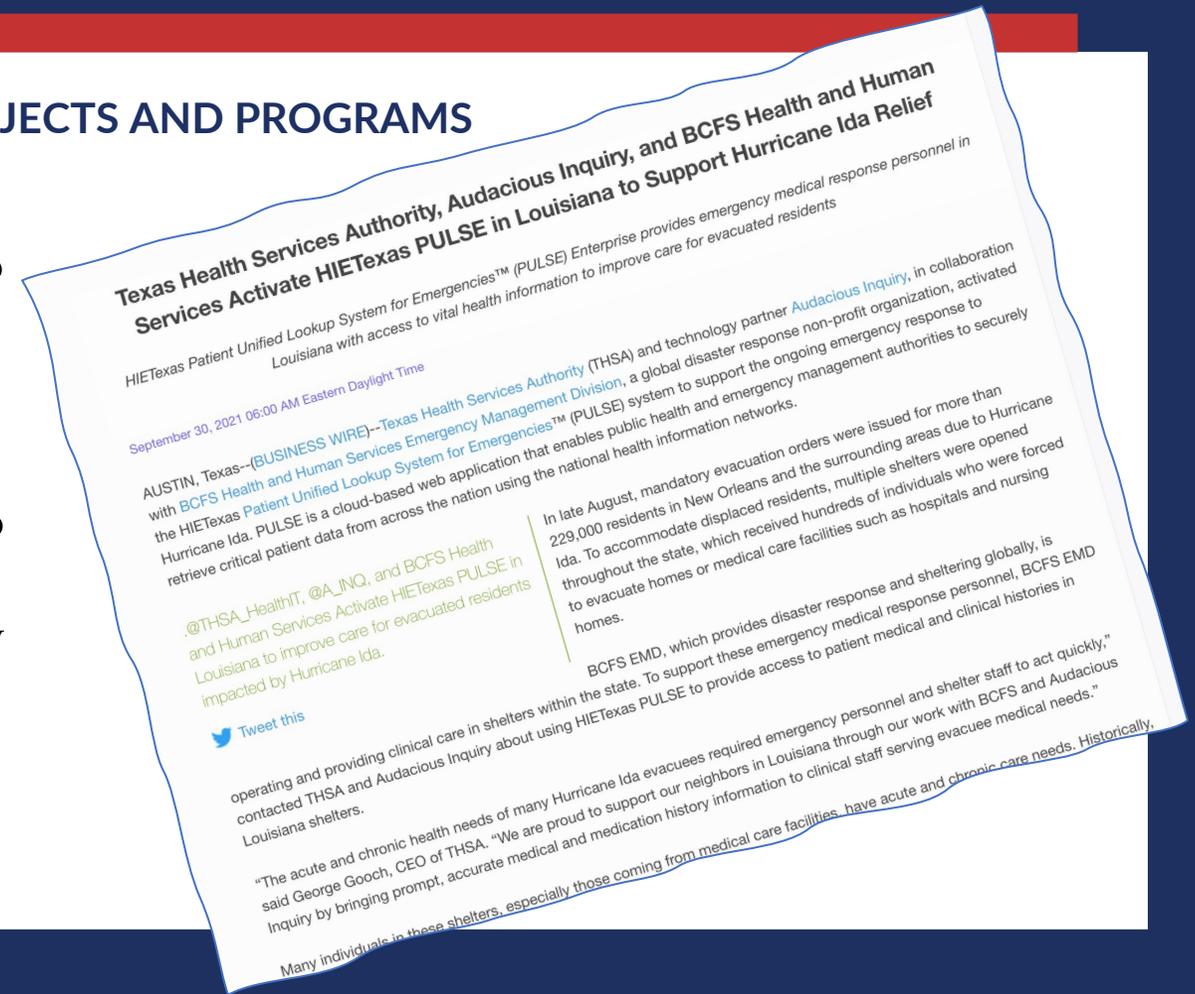plication that enables public health and emergency management authorities to securely retrieve critical patient data from across the nation using the national health information networks.

.@THSA_HealthIT, @A_INQ, and BCFS Health and Human Services Activate HIETexas PULSE in Louisiana to improve care for evacuated residents impacted by Hurricane Ida.

In late August, mandatory evacuation orders were issued for more than 229,000 residents in New Orleans and the surrounding areas due to Hurricane Ida. To accommodate displaced residents, multiple shelters were opened throughout the state, which received hundreds of individuals who were forced to evacuate homes or medical care facilities such as hospitals and nursing homes.

BCFS EMD, which provides disaster response and sheltering globally, is operating and providing clinical care in shelters within the state. To support these emergency medical response personnel, BCFS EMD contacted THSA and Audacious Inquiry about using HIETexas PULSE to provide access to patient medical and clinical histories in Louisiana shelters.

"The acute and chronic health needs of many Hurricane Ida evacuees required emergency personnel and shelter staff to act quickly," said George Gooch, CEO of THSA. "We are proud to support our neighbors in Louisiana through our work with BCFS and Audacious Inquiry by bringing prompt, accurate medical and medication history information to clinical staff serving evacuee medical needs."

Many individuals in these shelters, especially those coming from medical care facilities, have acute and chronic care needs. Historically,

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF HIETexas PULSE

HIETexas Service	Status
Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies (PULSE)	Fully Operational

- **Current status:**
  - Live and available for immediate use during declared disasters
  - Administrator and end-user training videos and materials now available on THSA's new website
  - THSA has provided input into the Ai product roadmap based on production use for Hurricane Ida

- **Next steps:**
  - Exploring expanded base of additional end user organizations
  - Working on next upgrade, focus on user interface enhancements, largely based on field deployment in response to hurricane Ida in the New Orleans area of Louisiana

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF HIETexas PULSE

- HIETexas PULSE Texas disaster response medical shelter organization updates:
  - Recent accomplishments:
    - Actual production use for disaster response
    - Completed process integration (for PULSE deployment lifecycle) for admins and clinical end users
  - Next steps:
    - Validate and improve process integration (between THSA and PULSE client organizations)
    - Collaborate on lessons learned in advance of 2022 hurricane season

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Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs
Current Status of STAR HIE Program – SANER Project

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
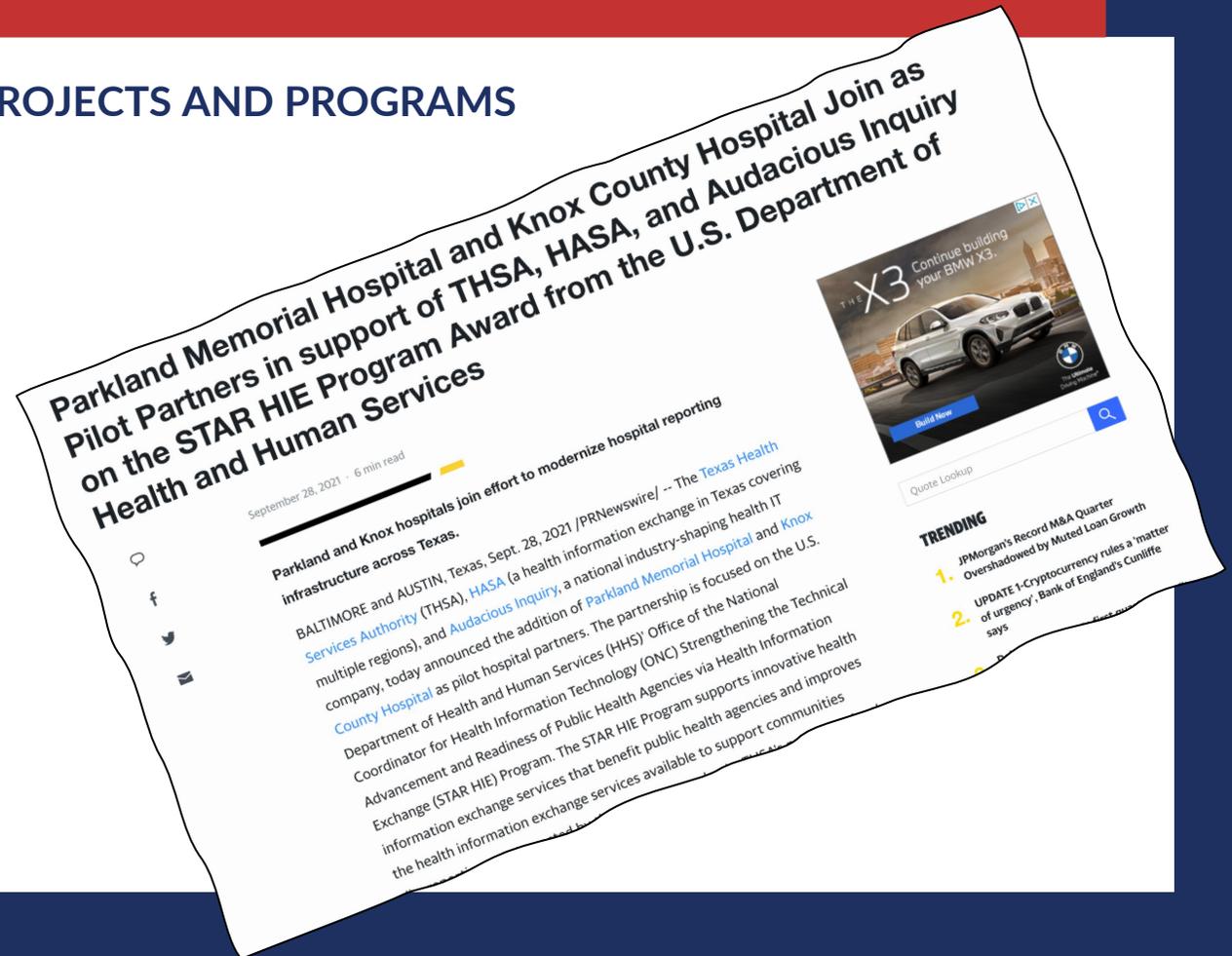### SANER PROJECT IN THE NEWS!

Two pilot hospitals now participating in SANER!

Knox County Hospital
- 28 bed rural, community hospital
- CPSI EMR vendor
- Project kick-off April 2022

Parkland Memorial
- 777 bed urban safety-net hospital
- Epic EMR vendor
- Project kick-off December 2021

Parkland Memorial Hospital and Knox County Hospital Join as Pilot Partners in support of THSA, HASA, and Audacious Inquiry on the STAR HIE Program Award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

September 28, 2021 · 6 min read

Parkland and Knox hospitals join effort to modernize hospital reporting infrastructure across Texas.

BALTIMORE and AUSTIN, Texas, Sept. 28, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- The Texas Health Services Authority (THSA), HASA (a health information exchange in Texas covering multiple regions), and Audacious Inquiry, a national industry-shaping health IT company, today announced the addition of Parkland Memorial Hospital and Knox County Hospital as pilot hospital partners. The partnership is focused on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) Strengthening the Technical Advancement and Readiness of Public Health Agencies via Health Information Exchange (STAR HIE) Program. The STAR HIE Program supports innovative health information exchange services that benefit public health agencies and improves the health information exchange services available to support communities

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT

There are two components of the STAR HIE Program as it relates to THSA:

Underlying award	Supplemental award
• Awarded to THSA (with sub-awards to Ai and HASA) in **September 2020** • **Two-year** cooperative agreement • Relates to exchange of **situational awareness data** • Have signed MOU with DSHS and Dallas County • THSA **plays active part** in data exchange	• Awarded to THSA (with sub-awards to Ai and HASA) and other HIEs, such as GHH and RGVHIE, in **January 2021** • **One-year** cooperative agreement • Relates to exchange of **vaccination data** • Need MOU with DSHS • THSA acts only as **fiscal agent**; all data exchange activities would take place between HASA, Ai and DSHS

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UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT

Problem Statement – Underlying Award

- The process by which hospitals transmit capacity (e.g., space, staff, supplies) and capability (e.g., available specialty care) data to public health authorities and emergency response personnel **lacks a standard data language** and common framework for exchange.

- This can lead to an **incomplete understanding** of a given region's acute care capacity and capability.

- The current data submission process can be **time/resource intensive** for hospital staff.

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT

Vision Statement – Underlying Award

- Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) can be used as a **common standard for hospitals** and health systems to share select information.

- Data can be **extracted automatically** and in **real-time** from underlying data systems at both the hospital and regional HIE level.

- Data can then be **leveraged by multiple local, state and federal agencies** for dashboards, reports and analytics.

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT

Immunization Data – Supplemental Award

- The STAR HIE Cooperative Agreement recently expanded to **"improve COVID-19 vaccination data by connecting immunization information systems (IISs) to Health Information Exchanges (HIEs)**. The funding seeks to better align HIEs with public health and leverage the extensive amount of clinical data held by HIEs to support enhanced knowledge sharing around the COVID-19 vaccinations."

- "Services or functionalities will be deployed to enable, enhance or increase the use of health information exchange among relevant entities, including providers who care for vulnerable or at-risk populations. Such services and functions will need to address communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including as it relates to the stratifying factors of age, race, ethnicity and sex.

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT

HIETexas Service	Status
STAR HIE Program – Situational Awareness for Novel Epidemic Response (SANER) Project	PILOT

- **Current status:**
    - Completed RFP for FHIR-based Application Software Development Services – Lantana Consulting Group
    - We now have two pilot hospitals – Knox County and Parkland Memorial
    - Working with DSHS/ONC/other HIEs on next steps regarding supplemental award and vaccination data

- **Next steps:**
    - Now that we have all parties in place, we're beginning technical implementation
    - Begin technical implementation under supplemental award

Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs
Current Status of SECURETexas Certification

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
CURRENT STATUS OF SECURETexas CERTIFICATION

- The THSA offers a voluntary privacy and security certification program, known as "SECURETexas Certification," that measures a Texas covered entity's past compliance with state and federal medical privacy and security law.

- If a covered entity possesses SECURETexas Certification at the time of an alleged violation of the Texas Medical Records Privacy Act, the covered entity may present the certification as evidence to be taken into consideration as a mitigating factor in developing administrative of civil monetary penalties.

- Staff monitored legislation that may affect SECURETexas Certification during the 87th Texas Legislative Session.

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Update and Consideration of THSA's Projects and Programs
THSA Councils and Work Groups

THSA

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
UPDATE ON THSA COLLABORATION COUNCIL

- The THSA Collaboration Council conducted their last meeting on September 28, 2021 with a presentation from Scott Stuewe, CEO DirectTrust who provided an overview of DirectTrust and their efforts to support trusted data exchange.

- The meeting materials are available for review as **Attachment No. 4 (PDF page 012)** in your attachments document.

- The Council will meet next in advance of the February 2022 board meeting.

UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THSA'S PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS
UPDATE ON TEXAS INTEROPERABILITY COLLABORATIVE

- Texas Interoperability Collaborative was launched May 2021 as a multidisciplinary, vendor agnostic collaborative including all stakeholders with a focus on removing barriers to safe, secure clinical data exchange.

- Meets monthly, 2nd Wednesday at 8:00 am with open invitation.

- Priorities are determined based on stakeholder feedback with volunteer work-groups.

INTEROPERABILITY COLLABORATIVE PRIORITIES

1. Standardizing CCDA Content

2. Increasing use of Direct Messaging

3. Adoption of National Networks

4. Standardized Patient Naming Policy

5. Payer to Payer Interoperability

6. Immunization Registry / ImmTrac2

7. Public Health Reporting / Electronic Case Reporting

Future Meeting Schedule

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

Date
Friday, February 4, 2022
Friday, May 6, 2022
Friday, August 19, 2022
Friday, November 11, 2022

Future Agenda Items?

THSA
Texas Health Services Authority

Public Comment

Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074(a)(1)

Adjourn