

**STATE OF VERMONT
GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD**

In re: Review of 2019-2020 Health Information)
Exchange Strategic Plan and 2020 VHIE)
Connectivity Criteria)
_____)

**DECISION AND ORDER APPROVING THE
2019-2020 HIE PLAN AND 2020 VHIE CONNECTIVITY CRITERIA**

At a public meeting on November 13, 2019, the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) presented the 2019-2020 Health Information Exchange Strategic Plan (HIE Plan) and 2020 VHIE Connectivity Criteria to the Green Mountain Care Board (GMCB or Board). Vermont law requires the HIE Plan be revised annually and comprehensively updated every 5 years. 18 V.S.A. § 9351(a)(1). The GMCB must review and approve the HIE Plan annually “to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to enable the State to achieve the principles expressed in section 9371 of [Title 18].” 18 V.S.A. § 9375(b)(2)(A). In addition, the Board’s approval of the 2019-2020 HIE Plan is impacted by Act 53 of 2019, which requires the Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) use an opt-out consent model as of March 1, 2020[†] – a significant change from the VHIE’s current opt-in consent model which remains in effect through February 29, 2020. The HIE Plan, as presented, demonstrated strides toward meeting the March 1, 2020 deadline; at the time of the Plan’s submission to the Board, DVHA and stakeholders were working to finalize workflows and other details for implementing opt-out consent management.

At a public meeting on November 20, 2019, following discussion and public comment, the Board unanimously voted to approve the 2019-2020 HIE Plan and 2020 VHIE Connectivity Criteria as presented by DVHA, with the condition that DVHA return to the Board prior to March 1, 2020, to “propose an addendum to the 2019-2020 HIE Plan (effective 3/1/2020) to reflect opt-out consent and document how opt-out consent will be managed.” The Board imposed this condition to ensure that the 2019-2020 HIE Plan remains consistent with state law through the VHIE’s transition from an opt-in to opt-out consent model.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 9, 2020 at Montpelier, Vermont

[†] See 18 V.S.A. §9351(a)(3)(B), eff. March 1, 2020

s/ Kevin Mullin, Chair)
)
s/ Jessica Holmes) GREEN MOUNTAIN
) CARE BOARD
s/ Robin Lunge) OF VERMONT
)
s/ Tom Pelham)
)
s/ Maureen Usifer)

Filed: January 9, 2020

Attest: s/ Jean Stetter, Administrative Services Director
Green Mountain Care Board