

2021 Update to the Health Information Exchange Strategic Plan

2022 Connectivity Criteria

Staff Recommendation

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December 15, 2021



Process Reminder



- **November 1:** AHS submitted HIE Plan to GMCB
- **November 3-November 25:** HIE Plan posted; special public comment period
- **November 17:** AHS and VITL presented HIE Plan and Connectivity Criteria; GMCB staff review
- **December 8:** AHS resubmitted revised HIE Plan; revised Plan posted to GMCB website
- **December 15:** Final staff recommendation to GMCB on HIE Plan and Connectivity Criteria; potential votes

Board Feedback and Public Comment



- Board member feedback:
 - Data strategy that describes what, why, how data elements are collected, aggregated and shared
 - Data needs and requirements
 - Infrastructure requirements
 - Data sharing
 - Governing data
 - Vision for balance between public and private investment in the VHIE
- Verbal public comment:
 - Consumer representation and provider input into the HIE plan and connectivity criteria
 - Concern about costs of subscription services being passed on to consumers
 - Consumer access to the VHIE related to ease-of-access through one portal
- Written public comment: None

Revised HIE Plan



After the 11/17/2021 presentation to the Board on the 2021 submission of the HIE Plan, and board member and public comments the Plan was revised and resubmitted to include the following:

- Validate that goals and objectives for health information exchange in Vermont represent needs and interests of health system stakeholders
- Further develop vision for sustained public investment in health data exchange infrastructure and opportunities for private investment
- Review HIE Steering Committee membership and governance structure to ensure:
 - Essential roles are filled
 - Structure and organization emboldens progress
- Address HIE governance in Vermont
 - Potential alignment with existing structures like the GMCB's Data Governance Council.
- Develop a data strategy to provide a consistently updated description of how and why data elements are aggregated and shared through the central data repository, the Health Information Exchange

Suggested Principles for HIE Plan Review

1. Is the HIE Plan consistent with the requirements of V.S.A. 18 § 9351?
2. Is the HIE Plan consistent with the Principles for Health Care Reform in V.S.A. 18 § 9371, and will it help achieve the State's health reform goals?
3. Is the HIE Plan consistent with other relevant legislation?
4. Does the HIE Plan incorporate national best practices and expertise as well as feedback from Vermonters, including key HIE constituents (VITL, State of Vermont HIE stakeholders, and other private HIE providers), health care providers, and individuals seeking care?

Staff Recommendation



HIE Plan 2021 Update

Staff recommend approving the revised 2021 Update to the Health Information Exchange Strategic Plan as re-submitted on December 8.

Suggested Principles for Connectivity Criteria Review

1. Are the proposed Connectivity Criteria in alignment with HIE Plan goals, and will they support implementation of the HIE Plan and achievement of the State's health reform goals?
2. Are the proposed Connectivity Criteria sufficiently clear to be operationalized by VITL, the State of Vermont, and health care provider organizations?

Staff Recommendation

2022 Connectivity Criteria

Staff recommend approving the 2022 Connectivity Criteria as submitted in the revised 2021 HIE Plan update.