Transforming Health through a Digital Bridge

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What is the Digital Bridge?

- A partnership of health care, health IT and public health organizations
  - Goal is to ensure our nation’s health through a bidirectional information flow between health care and public health
  - An incubator for growing projects that meet this vision
  - A forum for sharing ideas and solutions

- Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the de Beaumont Foundation. Program management provided by Deloitte Consulting and the Public Health Informatics Institute.

- Initial focus: electronic case reporting (eCR)
Participating Organizations

Allscripts™
CSTE
APHL
astho™
Cerner
CDC
CSTE
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

eClinicalWorks
MEDITECH

Epic

KAISER PERMANENTE®

PARTNERS HEALTHCARE

NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

HealthPartners' Park Nicollet®

Project Management Office

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

de Beaumont Foundation

Deloitte

Public Health Informatics Institute
Members of the governance body are divided into four small groups that each work on particular topics related to the Digital Bridge, including oversight of eCR implementations, evaluation of resources to expand the project nationwide, guidance on legal and regulatory issues, and counsel on the future of the Digital Bridge.
Complexity of the Public Health System

Sharing data to improve clinical care and public health. digitalbridge.us
Electronic Case Reporting (eCR)
The automated generation and transmission of case reports from the electronic health record (EHR) to public health agencies for review and action.
How Electronic Case Reporting Works

01 Provider Enters Information
Health care provider documents patient visit information into electronic health record as part of regular workflow.

02 Health Technology Sends Information
Criteria in electronic health record or health information exchange triggers an electronic case report (eCR) to automatically send.

03 Determine Reportability
Case report is validated and if reportable, is forwarded to the appropriate agency. Health care provider is notified if disease case is submitted.

04 Analysis and Evaluation
Public health professionals receive the disease case for analysis and evaluation.

05 Additional Feedback to Provider
In the future, the provider can choose to receive guidance on patient care and outbreak response from public health.
Digital Bridge is implementing electronic case reporting across states and local jurisdictions.
# eCR Site Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Health Agency</th>
<th>Health Care Provider</th>
<th>EHR Vendor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wave 1: April – Fall 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>Lawrence Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>Cerner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Local Public Health Clinics</td>
<td>NetSmart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>Intermountain Healthcare</td>
<td>Cerner</td>
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<td>Wave 2: Fall 2017 – Early 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>UC Davis</td>
<td>Epic</td>
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<td>Houston</td>
<td>Houston Methodist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Partners HealthCare</td>
<td>Epic</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>Institute of Family Health</td>
<td>Epic</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Site Participation

• Sites will support five conditions initially: pertussis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, salmonellosis, and Zika.

• Participating sites will participate in eCR evaluations.

• Any public health agency participating in eCR outside of Digital Bridge is encouraged to continue to do so.
Digital Bridge Approach for eCR

• An interoperable, scalable, and multi-jurisdictional approach to eCR.

• Not a *new* technology product. The Digital Bridge approach is based on existing eCR tools and standards, and seeks to support their development and adoption.

• eCR is incorporated into the EHR as a background operation requiring little or no effort on the part of the clinical end user.

• The implementation sites’ technical solution will remain EHR vendor-agnostic so that any vendor can adopt the solution and pass on this functionality to their clients.
Benefits to the Digital Bridge Approach

• A unified approach to information exchange eases the burden and costs for all stakeholder groups.

• Streamlines the reporting and data collection processes for health care and public health.

• Earlier detection of cases, leading to:
  • Earlier intervention
  • Diminished transmission of disease

• Lays the foundation for greater bidirectional exchange. Clinicians will be easily informed about population health, environmental risks and outbreaks.

• Bidirectional data exchange can eventually encompass non-communicable diseases.
Thank you!

For updates: www.digitalbridge.us
For questions and input: info@digitalbridge.us