RI healthcare providers reach Direct Messaging milestone

Integration with CurrentCare leads to one million secure messages sent via national standards-based method for exchanging protected health information

provide follow-up care with our patients.”

RIPCPC and RIQI successfully collaborated in 2010 to develop the technical mapping of Direct messaging through a request from CMS in Washington, D.C. Dr. Puerini sent the first-ever provider-to-provider Direct message in the U.S. in January 2011.

RIQI’s program to facilitate adoption of Direct by providers and practices in Rhode Island launched in September 2011 and is managed by the RI Regional Extension Center (RI REC). The program offers educational materials and webinars and free membership in the Southern New England Trust Community, a community of verified providers who have a legitimate need to use Direct messaging to exchange patients’ protected health information (PHI). In addition, the program provides a selection of three qualified Health Information Service Providers (HISPs) in an online vendor marketplace. RIQI’s HISPs are Inpriva, MaxMD, and Secure Exchange Solutions.

Currently, 162 provider sites throughout Rhode Island, representing more than 600 providers, are using Direct with 135 sites receiving Hospital Alerts and seven major EHR platforms participating in CCD integration.

As a part of qualifying for incentive payments under the Meaningful Use Stage 2 criteria issued by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), healthcare organizations and providers must meet data transfer requirements using Direct Messaging. These requirements can be demonstrated with EHRs that comply with the ONC’s 2014 Edition EHR Certification Criteria which specifies electronic exchange of transition of care records with Direct Messaging.

For more information, visit www.rqi.org.

Classified Advertising

Searching for a physician assistant to join your practice?

The Rhode Island Academy of Physician Assistants can help you find a qualified PA. Visit the RIAPA Career Center to advertise and view the CVs of the best and brightest PAs. Go to www.RhodeIsland-PA.org and click on Career Center to start your search. RIMS members are eligible for a 15% discount on ads. For questions and details of how to obtain the discount contact: Megan Turcotte, mturcotte@rimed.org, or 401-331-3207.