



healthcurrent

Update

August 2018

Health Current Reaches 500th Participant Milestone

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Northwest Tucson recently joined Health Current, becoming the 500th participant to join Arizona's HIE. Formerly a HealthSouth hospital, Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Northwest Tucson is located on the campus of Northwest Medical Center in Tucson and is one of five Encompass Health hospitals that have joined Health Current. Across the state, there are now a total of 52 hospitals and health systems participating in Health Current.



Beth Scully, Health Current Senior Manager of Recruitment, has seen increased interest in HIE participation among post-acute care and rehabilitation hospitals over the past year. "We have seen a real growth in participation over the past year due to payment incentives as well as the need to better coordinate transitions of care in a value-based healthcare environment," Scully said.

Better Coordination for Home Care

Improving daily staff scheduling through Health Current Alerts? While it's not the primary benefit, Jason Smidt, Chief Information Officer for Arizona Home Care says that improving staff scheduling is an unexpected benefit of the Health Current service.

"Every day discharge planners are struggling to find the right

resource," Smidt said. "Through this coordination, they know that they can count on us."

- *Jason Smidt, Chief Information Officer for Arizona Home Care*

Arizona Home Care is the largest locally owned home health agency in the Phoenix Valley, providing home health care for some 550 acute home care cases throughout the Valley and Maricopa County, including cases such as patients with chronic heart failure, patients with post-surgical wounds or patients who need home infusion and specialty pharmacy services. Each day, Arizona Home Care sends nurses and other professionals to patient homes to provide services. Before they began receiving Alerts, it was common for a staff member to travel to a patient's home only to find the patient not at home but at the hospital. With these Alerts, staff is saving time and human resources by obtaining this information before they leave for a home care visit. Now they can reschedule prior to visiting a patient who is not home. [Read more here.](#)

Arizona Home Care 

Closing Gaps in Care and Improving Utilization

At Community Health Associates (CHA), they weren't surprised with how quickly they were able to use Health Current Alerts, but they were surprised at how often an Alert indicated an emergency department (ED) admission for one of their high-needs patients, according to Jessica Gleeson, Population Health Administrator for CHA. "We were surprised at the volume of ED use by these patients, and we recognized that we needed to take steps to assure more appropriate ED utilization," Gleeson said.

With over 4,500 patients, CHA works with a variety of populations including children, adults, serious mental illness (SMI) patients, court order treatment (COT) patients and patients recently enrolled in the [Targeted Investments Program](#) of AHCCCS. Within their nine locations in Arizona, they offer many services such as psychiatric health, recovery support, integrated physical health, and individual and family services. Four of those locations are integrated clinics where they have primary care and behavioral health services under one roof. [Read more here.](#)



CHA Staff at their TI Program Clinic Grand Opening in
May 2018

Melissa Kotrys Appointed to North American Board of HIMSS

Melissa Kotrys, Health Current CEO, has been appointed to the North American Board of the Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS). HIMSS is one of the largest health IT professional associations, with more than 70,000 individual members, 465



organizational members, 630 corporate partners and 470 non-profit partners. Joining Ms. Kotrys on the HIMSS Board is the Board Chair, Cris Ross, Chief Information Officer at the Mayo Clinic; Vice Chair, Michael Nusbaum, President of M.H. Nusbaum &

Associates; Lydia Lee, Partner at KPMG; David Smith, Chief Development Officer and Strategist, Leavitt Partners; and Walter Suarez, MD, Executive Director for Health IT Strategy and Policy at Kaiser Permanente.

Ms. Kotrys joins the Board as the representative of the health information exchange (HIE) industry as two other HIE representatives and members of the national collaborative of HIEs, the Strategic Health Information Exchange Collaborative (SHIEC), leave the Board. Denise Hines, Executive Director of the Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) is stepping down as Board Chair and John Kansky, CEO of the Indiana Health Information Exchange (IHIE), a fellow SHIEC Board member along with Ms. Kotrys, is stepping down as a Board Member. "I am honored to join the North American HIMSS Board, and grateful for the past work that John and Denise have done on behalf of HIEs," Kotrys said.

Part 2 and the Health Information Exchange: Applying Federal Substance Abuse Treatment Regulations (42 C.F.R. Part 2) to Health Information Exchanges(HIEs)

Health Current held community forums on Part 2 and the Health Information Exchange in Phoenix and Tucson recently. For those who were unable to attend one of these forums, Health Current is offering "lunch and learn" webinars with the same presentations.



Part 2 and the HIE seeks to bring stakeholders (including compliance personnel and providers) together to understand the practical implications of federal rules related to the sharing of substance abuse treatment records. With a focus on the sharing of such data through Health Current, Arizona's HIE, this webinar will provide a high-level overview of applicable regulations, to explore how stakeholders can ensure compliance while improving the sharing of valuable clinical data.

To provide further information about the practical implications of federal rules related to the sharing of substance abuse treatment records, Health Current will be hosting two educational webinars:

Thursday, August 30, 2018 11:30am- 1:00pm

Tuesday, September 11, 2018 11:30am- 1:00pm

REGISTER NOW!

Health Current Summit & Trade Show Update

Nominations Open for Health IT Innovation & Health IT

Leader of the Year Awards

Do you know an outstanding Health IT innovator or leader? If so, nominate them today for the third-annual Health IT Innovation and Health IT Leader of the Year Awards.

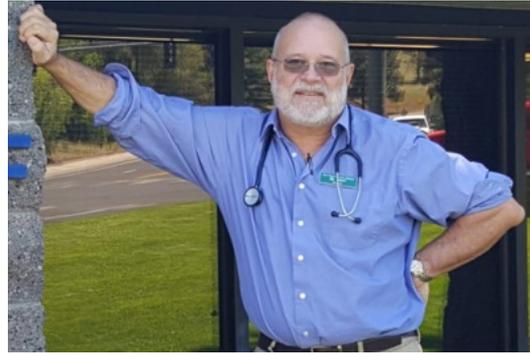
The Health IT Innovation Award and the Health IT Leader Awards are non-monetary recognition's of achievement and will be presented during the annual Health Current Summit & Trade Show on December 4, 2018 at the Renaissance Phoenix/Glendale Hotel, Glendale, Arizona.

Nomination forms are available [here](#) and the deadline to submit nominations is October 1, 2018.

Prior Year Recipients:

2017 Health IT Leadership Award

Dr. Bradford D. Croft, DO
East Flagstaff Family Medicine



Dr. Bradford D. Croft, DO

2017 Health IT Innovation Award

El Rio Health

2016 Health IT Leadership Award

Lorie Mayer, Health IT Coordinator
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

2016 Health IT Innovation Award

Phoenix Children's Care Network

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