



healthcurrent

Update

December 2018

More Than 330 Attend 2018 Summit & Trade Show

The 2018 Health Current Summit & Trade Show brought together more than 330 attendees for two-days of presentations and discussions with the theme of **Integrated HIE: The Progress of Patient-Centered Care**. Held December 3 - 4, 2018 at the Renaissance Phoenix/Glendale Hotel & Spa in Glendale, Arizona for the second straight year, the event featured several national speakers and panel discussions around data quality, social determinants of health and how Health Current participants are using Arizona's health information exchange (HIE) to improve care coordination and healthcare outcomes. The two-day event featured over 30 speakers, 12 breakout sessions, an exhibit hall with many technology solution providers and the presentation of the Health IT Leader and Innovation Awards. [Read More](#)



From Horizon from left to right, Gustavo McGrew, Adrienne Howley, Karl Kleinebreil, Russ Wood, Dr. Fred Karst and Tim Haines

On the far right are Melissa Kotrys (Health Current) and Jenn Sommers (Mercy Care)

Health IT Leader and Health IT Innovator Recognized at the 2018 Summit

The Health Current Health IT Awards, presented by Mercy Care and now in its third year, recognized an outstanding individual and an outstanding organization at the 2018 Summit & Trade Show. Both awards were presented after the noon keynote presentation on Tuesday, December 4, 2018.

The Health IT Leader Award recognizes an outstanding leader in advancing healthcare through health information technology and health information exchange. The Health IT Innovation Award recognizes an organization



From the left, Jenn Sommers, (Mercy Care), CAPT. Peter Vermilyea (Winslow Indian Healthcare Center) and Melissa Kotrys (Health Current)

for outstanding innovation and achievement in advancing healthcare through health information technology and health information exchange. [Read more](#)

Alerts In the Right Place At the Right Time

When North Country HealthCare started receiving Alerts in 2016, they had little idea of the impact it would have, much less that it could help intervene with life-saving care, according to Lori Pearlmutter, Quality Manager for North Country HealthCare. Today, receiving Alerts in the right place at the right time has become an essential tool for care managers at North Country HealthCare, Pearlmutter said.

Founded by a small group of doctors in 1991 as the Flagstaff Free Clinic, the clinic became a state and federally funded community health center in 1996 and is the primary health care center serving 14 communities across northern Arizona. North Country provides a range of health services including primary care, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics and behavioral health. Other services offered at multiple clinics include dental, physical therapy and community health programs.

In addition, the center provides support for patients with chronic disease or conditions such as diabetes and offers a number of community health programs aimed at promoting good health and well-being. [Read More](#)



Lori Pearlmutter, North Country HealthCare



Waivers Still Accepted for Arizona Prescribers

State Mandate Requires Electronic Prescriptions for Opioids Beginning January 1, 2019

The Arizona Board of Pharmacy set a deadline of December 15, 2018 for waiver applications to allow the Board time to process applications prior to

The January 1, 2019 mandate applies to prescribers in Arizona's six largest counties. For prescribers in all other counties, there is a July 1, 2019 mandate with a June 15, 2019 deadline for waiver applications.

To increase EPCS in Arizona and prepare Arizona prescribers for this new state requirement, Health Current created the Click for Control campaign that includes a basic [fact sheet](#), information and resources on

January 1, 2019 when the State Mandate goes into effect. However, the Board of Pharmacy will continue to accept and process waiver applications, although it can no longer guarantee that applications will be processed prior to the State Mandate going into effect.

Beginning January 1, 2019, the Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act mandates that any prescription for a Schedule II opioid to be transmitted electronically - the electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS). Because many prescribers face challenges and hardships in becoming EPCS-ready, the legislation offers a one time, one-year waiver for prescribers who face hardships that prevent the implementation of EPCS by the deadline.

the [Health Current website](#), as well as free webinars for Arizona prescribers.

If you have questions on EPCS or the Click for Control campaign, please contact Health Current at (602) 688-7200 or [eRx@healthcurrent.org](mailto:ERx@healthcurrent.org).

**Click for Control Fact Sheet,
Resources and More Info
[CLICK HERE](#)**



Health Current Holiday Hours

The Health Current office will be closed the following days:

- Monday, December 24, 2018 - Christmas Eve
- Tuesday, December 25, 2018 - Christmas Day
- Monday December 31, 2018 - New Year's Eve
- Tuesday, January 1, 2019 - New Year's Day

If you are an HIE participant and need technical support, email: hiesupport@healthcurrent.org

Happy Holidays!

