



healthcurrent

Update

May 3, 2018

Helping Horizon Health Cut Hospital Use in Half

After just the first week of access to the Health Current portal, Dr. Fred Karst, Chief Operations Officer at Horizon Health and Wellness, knew that Health Current was going to change the way they operate. In fact, Health Current has already helped them cut hospital admissions in half for their highest users.

Serving a patient base of 12,000 with over 600 staff members, Horizon Health and Wellness offers mental health, behavioral health, and primary care services in 10 Arizona locations. After participating two years in the health information exchange (HIE), Horizon has been able to incorporate the services that Health Current offers into their everyday work flow.



Dr. Karst recalled that he first realized the value of the HIE when an elderly woman came into the facility and needed blood work. As the staff, including the chief nurse, faced a difficult time finding a vein for a blood draw, Dr. Karst remembered his newly granted access to the HIE portal. After a few simple clicks, he realized that the staff could put their needles

away because hospital records from the previous day included blood work that was readily available in the HIE. [Read more here.](#)

First HIE User Group Meeting a Success

Health Current held a successful first statewide HIE User Group on April 3 at the Virginia G. Piper Auditorium in downtown Phoenix, with over 220 HIE participants in attendance for the half-day event. This statewide HIE User Group meeting was the first of a series of planned User Group meetings aimed at sharing HIE use cases, best practices as well as common problems and issues.



Tom Betlach, Director
of AHCCCS

According to attendee evaluations, some of the best presentations at the meeting were from HIE users themselves. There were three brief presentations from a diverse group of HIE users:

- Jesus Rivera, Battalion Chief Surprise Fire-Medical Department
 - Use of the HIE portal by first responders
- Danielle Griffith, Corporate Compliance Director, Southwest Network
 - Use of HIE Alerts by one of the state's largest behavioral health providers
- Karen Critchley, Care Coordination Supervisor, El Rio Health
 - Use of "enhanced HIE Alerts" to improve care coordination for their high-needs patients

Another highlight of the HIE User Group meeting was a presentation by Tom Betlach, Director of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment (AHCCCS) Program on the newly announced Complete Care Contracts and what participants will need to do to be successful in delivering integrated value-based care.

Look for more information on upcoming regional HIE User Group meeting and other Health Current events [here](#).

CMS Proposed Rule Revamping Meaningful Use Released: "Promoting Interoperability"



CMS has released a proposed rule which will have broad changes to its Meaningful Use Program. Renaming the program, "Promoting Interoperability," the changes are designed to implement the CMS *MyHealthEData* initiative to strengthen interoperability and change the rules of the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record Programs. According to CMS Administrator, Seema Verma, the proposed rule aims to empower patients and reduce administrative burden by changing the way healthcare providers implement electronic health record systems and the impact that implementation would have on patient care.

"We seek to ensure the healthcare system puts patients first," said Administrator Seema Verma. "Today's proposed rule demonstrates our commitment to patient access to high quality care while removing outdated and redundant regulations on providers. We envision a system that rewards value over volume and where patients reap the benefits through more choices and better health outcomes. [Read more here.](#)

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.

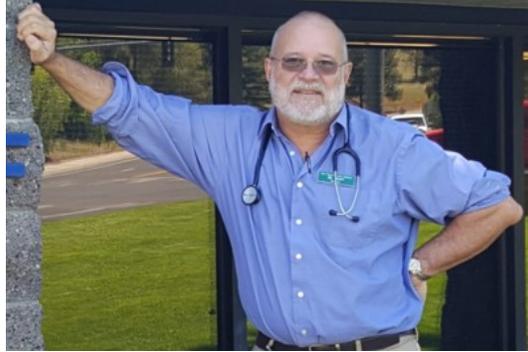
Nomination forms are available [here](#) and the deadline to submit

nominations is October 1, 2018.

Prior Year Recipients:

2017 Health IT Leadership Award

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



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

Upcoming Events - Save the Date



Tackling the Opioid Crisis: A Practice Approach to Understanding and Tackling the Program

Date: Saturday, August 25, 2018

Time: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Where: Locations in Phoenix, Tucson, Flagstaff and Yuma

Registration: Opening soon | No cost to attend

Hosted by: Arizona Chapter of the American College of Physicians in collaboration with the Practice Innovation Institute.

The three-hour event aims to provide prescribing clinicians with ways to improve prescribing and dispensing practices, improve access to treatment and reduce opioid deaths.

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