GRAChIE
Georgia Regional Academic Community Health Information Exchange
Tara Broxton Cramer
Session Objectives:

- List the strategies to develop and implement a successful health information exchange
- Describe the challenges that may need to be overcome when implementing a health information exchange
- Discuss how these strategies can be applied to your organization and beyond
GRAChIE

About Us

GRAChIE is well established with two founding organizations

• Board of Directors (7)
• Staff
  • Executive Director
  • Data Specialist/MPI Technician
  • Onboarding Project Manager
• 501c3 status/ Independent Entity
Patient Consent

GRAChIE is an Opt-Out Model

- Typically the organization’s consent for treatment and/or Notice of Privacy Protection includes a statement indicating participation in a health information exchange
  - Opt-out controlled by GRAChIE; not EMR
  - Participants can opt-out via email, online or by mail

Less than .5% of GRAChIE MPI opted out
GRAChIE charges a one-time implementation fee.

GRAChIEs annual fees are based on patient volume for hospitals and provider number for physician practices.

GRAChIE pricing can be flexible to accommodate spreading costs over a large group or groups that bring benefit to all GRAChIE members.
GRACIE Data Flow and Access

Member’s EMR -> CCD
Data submitted via chosen transmission method

HIE
Data is aggregated combined

Data access options
- Servlet/Community View
- Web Portal

SFTP/VPN/TLS/SOAP
HIE Data

What is shared?

- Demographic data
- Visit history
- Problems and Diagnoses
- Medications
- Allergies
- Vital signs
- Lab results
- Immunizations
- Discharge Summaries
- History and Physical
- Radiology reports
- Provider reports

HIE is dependent on the information sent to it by the EMR.
GRAChIE Members on the Map

GRAChIE Members concentrated in Central and Eastern Georgia, but others scattered across the state.

Currently 17 data contributors.
GRACIE partnered with the Pediatric Healthcare Improvement Coalition to “connect” practices associated with the PHIC Asthma Project (6 sites across the state).

Partnered with Chatham Health Link
- Curtis V. Cooper
- JC Lewis
- Memorial Health
- St Joe/Candler

Patient Referral Patterns or The Shopping Mall Strategy
1,198,359 Unique Patients

- 1,076,719 patients with a single source
- 115,795 with two sources
- 5503 with three sources
- 331 with four sources
- 10 patients with five sources
- 1 patient with records in six sources
Biggest Lessons Learned

- Onboarding is not a cookie cutter process
- Opt-Out is not scary
- Continuous auditing and testing
- MPI management
- It WORKS!
Strategies that worked for GRAChIE (non-technical)
- Committed Partners
- Plan and Move – Take Risks, but don’t be risky
- Always, always ask the question
- Think outside of your strategy for growth

Our Challenges – and what we learned from others
- Getting people to pay for it
- Competition for patients
- Analysis Paralysis
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