

# Public Health Law



Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Electronic Health Information Research Anthology: Selected Readings

Electronic health information (EHI) refers to patient data stored in electronic form that are collected and shared for healthcare delivery and public health purposes. In this anthology, “primary use” of EHI refers to use of electronic patient data for providing direct healthcare services, such as treatment. “Secondary use” refers to use of electronic patient data for public health purposes and treatment-related research, licensure, and payment.

The materials included in this anthology were found through online searches for resources published on EHI and law during 2010–2014. Materials were included here if they addressed EHI-related law or policy in states, tribal lands, localities, and territories. While this anthology reflects search results as of 2014, it should not be considered exhaustive.

More information about EHI can be found in the Public Health Law Program’s issue brief, [Federal Health Laws Supporting Data Use and Sharing](#).

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## Background

- [Electronic Health Records: What's in It for Everyone?](#)  
Seth Foldy et al., CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC), DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS) (2011).
- [Data Integrity in an Era of EHRs, HIEs, and HIPAA: A Health Information Management Perspective](#)  
Dan Rode, AMERICAN HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (AHIMA) (2012).  
Discusses health information technology technical standards and data integrity in the context of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy and security regulations.
- How Local Context Affects Providers' Adoption and Use of Interoperable Health Information Technology: Case Study Evidence from Four Communities ([Round One](#)) ([Round Two](#))  
Kelly Devers et al., URBAN INSTITUTE (2014).  
Explores the effects of contextual factors, such as local government, policy, healthcare market and community characteristics, and healthcare reform efforts on Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act incentive program implementation in select case studies.
- [Connecting Health and Care for the Nation: A 10-Year Vision To Achieve An Interoperable Health IT Infrastructure](#)  
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (ONC), HHS (2014).  
Describes ONC's broad vision and framework for interoperability.

## Primary Uses of EHI: Providers and Facilities

- [Clinical Decision Support](#)  
AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH QUALITY (AHRQ), HHS (2010).  
Describes the AHRQ's Clinical Decision Support (CDS) initiative.
- [National Perceptions of EHR Adoption: Barriers, Impacts, and Federal Policies](#)  
Eric Jamoon, CDC, HHS (Aug. 2012).  
Summarizes results from survey of healthcare providers relating to EHR adoption.
- [Escaping the EHR Trap—The Future of Health IT](#)  
Kenneth D. Mandl & Isaac S. Kohane, 366 NEW ENG. J. MED. 2240–2 (2012).  
Discusses the functionality of current EHRs in practice.
- [Stage 2 Data Elements Tipsheet for Eligible Professionals](#)  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS) (2014).  
Provides tips to help healthcare providers meet the Stage 2 Meaningful Use requirements to be eligible for the HITECH incentive payments.
- [Assessing and Improving EHR Data Quality \(Updated\)](#)  
AHIMA, J. OF AM. HEALTH INFO. MGMT. ASS'N (2013).  
Discusses importance of high-quality data collection from EHRs.

- [Security Risk Analysis Tipsheet: Protecting Patients' Health Information](#)  
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS (OCR), CMS (2013).  
Assists eligible providers in the HITECH Incentive Program perform security risk analysis to meet HIPAA standards.
- [Use and Characteristics of Electronic Health Record Systems Among Office-based Physician Practices: United States, 2001–2013](#)  
Chun-Ju Hsiao & Esther Hing, CDC, HHS (2014).  
Discusses trends in EHR adoption and readiness to meet meaningful use objectives.
- [How To Implement EHRs: Clinical Decision Support](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Explains CDS features in HIT systems.
- [Privacy, Security, and Electronic Health Records](#)  
OCR, HHS.  
Discusses the HIPAA privacy and security regulations related to EHRs.

## Secondary Uses of EHI

- [Building a Robust, Scalable, and Standards-Driven Infrastructure for Secondary Use of EHR Data: The SHARPN Project](#)  
Susan Rea et al., 45 J. OF BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS (ISSUE 4) 763–771 (2012).  
Discusses efforts to increase the exchange and secondary use of EHR data.
- [Structured Data Capture \(SDC\): HITSC Overview](#)  
ONC, HHS (2013).  
Outlines the ONC's SDC initiative and explains the significance of collecting health information from EHRs.
- [Capturing High Quality Electronic Health Records Data To Support Performance Improvement](#)  
ONC, HHS (2013).  
Discusses the use of EHR data to support healthcare quality measurement, reporting, and other performance improvement activities.
- [Collection, Use, and Disclosure Limitation](#)  
OCR, HHS (2015).  
Provides information relating to HIPAA and the collection, use, and disclosure of EHI.
- [HSRIC: Privacy/Security and Research with Electronic Health Records](#)  
U.S. NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE (2015).  
Provides resources relating to the privacy and security of EHRs used for research.

## Public Health Uses

- [Using Electronic Health Record Alerts To Provide Public Health Situational Awareness to Clinicians](#)  
Joseph Lurio et al., 17 J. OF THE AM. MED. INFORMATICS ASS'N 217–9 (2010).  
Describes the bi-directional electronic exchange of data to between public health and healthcare providers in New York City to alert healthcare providers of local disease outbreaks and to promote public health.
- [Issue Brief: Health IT for Public Health Reporting and Information Systems](#)  
Wu, Lauren, ONC, HHS (Apr. 2014).  
Discusses the use of HIT to help healthcare providers satisfy their public health reporting requirements.
- [Public Health Surveillance](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Infographic showing the use of HIT for syndromic surveillance and public health reporting purposes.
- [Clinical Decision Support for Immunizations \(CDSi\)](#)  
CDC, HHS (2015).  
Describes the use of CDS to help healthcare providers determine the recommended vaccinations for patients at the time of care.

## Stage 2 HITECH Meaningful Use Objectives That Aim To Improve Public and Population Health

- [Summary of Public Health Objectives in Stage 2 Meaningful Use ONC and CMS Final Rules Version 1.1](#)  
CDC, HHS (Apr. 2014).  
Summarizes the Stage 2 meaningful use objectives related to public health.
- [Syndromic Surveillance Data Submission](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Provides an overview of the Stage 2 meaningful use objective for electronic submission of syndromic surveillance data.
- [Immunization Registries Data Submission](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Provides an overview of the Stage 2 meaningful use objective for electronic submission of immunization data to immunization information systems.
- [Report Cancer Cases](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Provides an overview of the Stage 2 meaningful use objective for electronic submission of cancer data to cancer information systems.

- [Report Specific Cases](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Provides an overview of the Stage 2 meaningful use objective for electronic submission of specific case data to specialized registries other than cancer information systems.

## Health Information Exchange (HIE)

- [Implementation of the Federal Health Information Technology Initiative](#)  
David Blumenthal, 365 NEW ENG. J. MED. 2426–31 (2011).  
Discusses interoperability and HIE.
- [Accelerating HIE Principles](#)  
ONC, HHS (2013).  
Provides principles to accelerate HIE based on stakeholder comments in response to a request for information.
- [Interoperability Training Courses](#)  
ONC, HHS (2014).  
Provides interoperability training courses to assist healthcare providers implement Stage 2 meaningful use requirements to be eligible for HITECH incentive payments.
- [Health Information Technology](#)  
OCR, HHS.  
Provides a Privacy and Security Framework for the exchange of EHI.