

# Children's and the GaHIN

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**Children's**<sup>SM</sup>  
Healthcare of Atlanta  
*Dedicated to All Better*

# Agenda

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- Why Children's joined the GaHIN
- Discuss GaHIN implementation
- Future Benefits by leveraging the GaHIN



# About Children's

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- **Mission:** To make kids better today and healthier tomorrow
- 3 Hospitals – Egleston, Scottish Rite and Hughes Spalding
- 24 Neighborhood Locations
- 1800+ providers, representing 60+ specialties and programs
- Pediatric focus
- Largest payer is Medicaid - 50 % of patients
- GaHIN go live Date: September 24<sup>th</sup> 2014



# Why Children's joined the GaHIN

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- Close the information gap across all care settings
- Improve the Coordination of Care
- Support improved quality of care, better health outcomes and gain cost efficiencies
- Facilitates the delivery of the right health information to the right place at the right time
  - Providers can make informed decisions
  - Patients with safer, timelier and better care



# Children's believes in HIE

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- Using HIE technology for a couple years.
- Important tool for improving quality of care
- Donna Hyland, President and CEO of Children's is an Executive Committee for GaHIN's Board of Directors
- "Children's participation in the statewide health information exchange network will allow us to further improve quality and patient safety as we lead improvements in pediatric medicine."



# Care Everywhere and GaHIN

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## EPIC is Children's EHR solution

- Children's has been exchanging data for over 2 years using Care Everywhere
- Care Everywhere is the mechanism that allows users to exchange information with other EPIC organizations (Grady, Wellstar, Piedmont, Kaiser and others) and Non-EPIC, such as GaHIN
- Providers can reconcile Medications, Problems and Allergies from other organizations



# EPIC / TRUVEN Connection

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## Pays Not To Go First

- Leveraged the Custom Adapter that Truven/GaHIN created for EPIC users
- Saved Children's time and money and streamlined our implementation
- Took advantage of the lessons learned from Grady

Thank you GRADY!



# Custom Adapter

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- Truven employs the IHE PIX (Patient Identifier Cross-Referencing) integration profile, one that EPIC does not support. EPIC supported PDQ.
- The GaHIN EPIC Adapter was created as a work around – EPIC sends demographic information to the adapter via an ADT feed, and the adapter sends that information to the GaHIN as a PIX query
- Aside from this, standard IHE profiles (XCA, XDS) are used to send and receive C-CDA documents to and from the GaHIN





# Timeline and Resources

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- Overall project was 16 weeks – Start 6/13 – Live 9/24
- Composition of project team
  - Executive Leadership
  - Physician Champions
  - Project Manger(s)- Truven and Children's
  - Integration Team
  - Application Analysts
  - HIM
  - Compliance
  - Legal
  - Security
  - Infrastructure
  - Training
  - Communications/Marketing
  - Support



# Consent /Privacy

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- Consents and Privacy Notices had to be modified due to GaHIN.
- Modified our NPP and admission consents to include HIE specific language
- Educate staff/providers on the new policies
- Opt out of either HIE and patient is opted out of both systems



# Training/Support

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Audience: Everyone who touches a patient

- Tip sheets
- WebEx sessions
- Taped WebEx sessions for replay by users
- Included materials in all new employee training
- HIM staff was trained on how to opt out a patient within GaHIN and Care Everywhere
- Created FAQ for support to handle general questions
- Difficult questions/issues are routed to the HIE team



# Communications

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- Internal Communications
  - Promoted the benefits and how to access GaHIN
  - Link to policy
  - Link to Care Everywhere functionality
- External Communications
  - Website for patient concerning HIE
  - Press Release concerning Children's and go live



# Educate Patients on HIE

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- Created communications for patients

- What is a Health Information Exchange?

- How is Children's participating?

- How does this affect my family?

- How to opt out?

#### What is a Health Information Exchange?

A Health Information Exchange (HIE) allows healthcare teams to safely and securely exchange a patient's medical information electronically. The information available in an HIE may include allergies, medications, diagnoses, lab tests, procedures and visit summaries. By providing timely electronic access to key medical information, HIEs can help support higher quality care, while also reducing costs.

#### How is Children's participating?

Children's, along with our affiliates and participating practices, joined a statewide network known as the Georgia Health Information Network ([GaHIN](#)). This network electronically connects Georgia hospitals, physicians and clinicians to support better care and better outcomes for our patients. Current members of the [GaHIN](#) include Emory Healthcare and Grady Health System.

#### How does this affect my family?

Patients are automatically opted into the [GaHIN](#), but they can opt out at any time. If you decide that you do not want your information or your child's information to be exchanged within the HIE, you can opt out by completing the HIE Opt-Out request form at [choa.org/HIE](http://choa.org/HIE).



# Web page for patients on HIE

- Created web page for patients
- Opt out forms in Spanish

## Health Information Exchange

### Another Way to Provide Seamless Care

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta exchanges healthcare information with other organizations and specialists through Health Information Exchanges (HIE).

An HIE is a group of organizations that can securely exchange patient information for the benefit of patient care. Members of the HIE are able to send and receive information about specific patients to and from other members as needed.

[\[Expand All\]](#)

What HIEs Does Children's Participate in? 

What Kind of Information is Available on HIEs? 

What About Sensitive Information? 

How Can I Opt Out? 

If you don't want your information exchanged within the HIE, you can fill out and submit an opt-out request form. Patients are opted in to the GaHIN by default but can opt out at any time.

Any information exchanged through Care Everywhere is only allowed with written consent from the patient or that patient's family.

Download the [opt-out request form \(Spanish\)](#).

Download the [form to revoke opt-out \(Spanish\)](#) if you would like to be opted-in again.



# Leveraging the GaHIN

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- Children's will leverage Georgia Direct for the Health Information Service Provider (HISP)
- Children's has formed a Clinically Integrated Network (CIN)
- Children's is investing in its own HIE called PIE (Pediatric Information Exchange)
- Future direction is to connect the PIE to GaHIN and CIN members/Children's to the PIE



# Valuable data for our CIN members

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Longitudinal view of a patients record via PIE

Data from sources such as:

- GaHIN members
- Children's EHR
- CIN practices
- Medicaid
- GRITS





# Questions

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