Transforming Health through a Digital Bridge

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What is the Digital Bridge?

- A partnership of health care, health IT and public health organizations
  - Goal is to ensure our nation's health through a bidirectional information flow between health care and public health
  - An incubator for growing projects that meet this vision
  - A forum for sharing ideas and solutions

- Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the de Beaumont Foundation. Program management provided by Deloitte Consulting and the Public Health Informatics Institute.

- Initial focus: electronic case reporting (eCR)

digital bridge

Sharing data to improve clinical care and public health. **digitalbridge.us**

Participating Organizations

Allscripts

APHL

astho™

Cerner™

CDC — CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

CSTE — COUNCIL OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL EPIDEMIOLOGISTS

Epic

KAISER PERMANENTE®

eClinicalWorks

MEDITECH

PARTNERS HEALTHCARE

HealthPartners® Park Nicollet®

Connecting America for Better Health
The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology™

NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials
The National Connection for Local Public Health

Funders

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

de Beaumont FOUNDATION

Project Management Office

Deloitte.

Public Health Informatics Institute
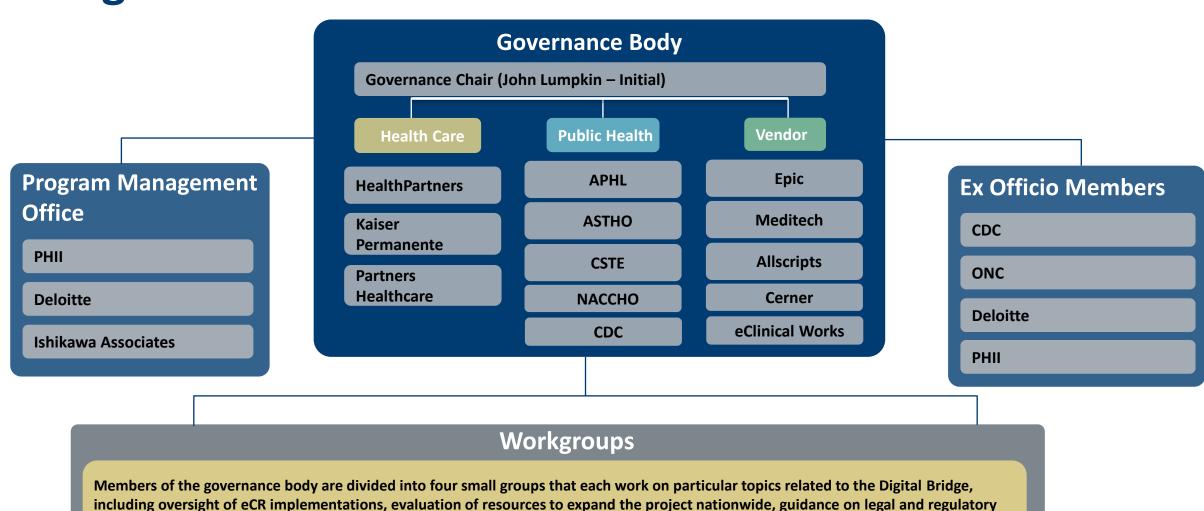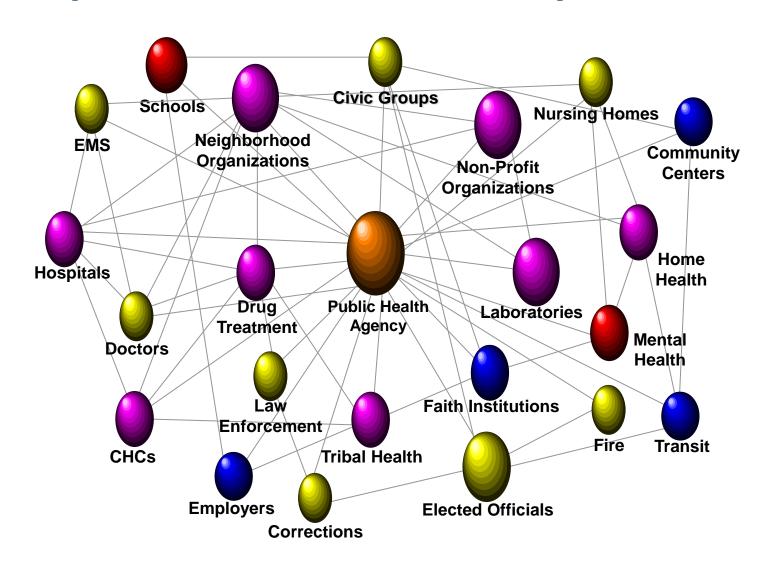
Organizational Structure

Governance Body

Governance Chair (John Lumpkin – Initial)

Health Care	Public Health	Vendor
HealthPartners	APHL	Epic
Kaiser Permanente	ASTHO	Meditech
Partners Healthcare	CSTE	Allscripts
	NACCHO	Cerner
	CDC	eClinical Works

Program Management Office

- PHII
- Deloitte
- Ishikawa Associates

Ex Officio Members

- CDC
- ONC
- Deloitte
- PHII

Workgroups

Members of the governance body are divided into four small groups that each work on particular topics related to the Digital Bridge, including oversight of eCR implementations, evaluation of resources to expand the project nationwide, guidance on legal and regulatory issues, and counsel on the future of the Digital Bridge.

May 2017

Complexity of the Public Health System

Sharing data to improve clinical care and public health. **digitalbridge.us**

Schools
Civic Groups
Nursing Homes
EMS
Neighborhood Organizations
Non-Profit Organizations
Community Centers
Hospitals
Home Health
Drug Treatment
Public Health Agency
Laboratories
Doctors
Mental Health
Law Enforcement
Faith Institutions
CHCs
Fire
Transit
Tribal Health
Employers
Elected Officials
Corrections

Electronic Case Reporting (eCR)
The automated generation and transmission of case reports from the electronic health record (EHR) to public health agencies for review and action.

How Electronic Case Reporting Works

01
Provider Enters Information

Health care provider documents patient visit information into electronic health record as part of regular workflow.

02
Health Technology Sends Information

Criteria in electronic health record or health information exchange triggers an electronic case report (eCR) to automatically send.

03
Determine Reportability

Case report is validated and if reportable, is forwarded to the appropriate agency. Health care provider is notified if disease case is submitted.

04
Analysis and Evaluation

Public health professionals receive the disease case for analysis and evaluation.

05
Additional Feedback to Provider

In the future, the provider can choose to receive guidance on patient care and outbreak response from public health.

Digital Bridge is implementing electronic case reporting across states and local jurisdictions.

eCR Site Participation

Public Health Agency	Health Care Provider	EHR Vendor
Wave 1: April – Fall 2017		
Kansas	Lawrence Memorial Hospital	Cerner
Michigan	Local Public Health Clinics	NetSmart
Utah	Intermountain Healthcare	Cerner
Wave 2: Fall 2017 – Early 2018		
California	UC Davis	Epic
Houston	Houston Methodist	Epic
Massachusetts	Partners HealthCare	Epic
New York City	Institute of Family Health	Epic

Site Participation

- Sites will support five conditions initially: pertussis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, salmonellosis, and Zika.

- Participating sites will participate in eCR evaluations.

- Any public health agency participating in eCR outside of Digital Bridge is encouraged to continue to do so.

Digital Bridge Approach for eCR

- An interoperable, scalable, and multi-jurisdictional approach to eCR.

- Not a *new* technology product. The Digital Bridge approach is based on existing eCR tools and standards, and seeks to support their development and adoption.

- eCR is incorporated into the EHR as a background operation requiring little or no effort on the part of the clinical end user.

- The implementation sites' technical solution will remain EHR vendor-agnostic so that any vendor can adopt the solution and pass on this functionality to their clients.

Benefits to the Digital Bridge Approach

- A unified approach to information exchange eases the burden and costs for all stakeholder groups.

- Streamlines the reporting and data collection processes for health care and public health.

- Earlier detection of cases, leading to:
  - Earlier intervention
  - Diminished transmission of disease

- Lays the foundation for greater bidirectional exchange. Clinicians will be easily informed about population health, environmental risks and outbreaks.

- Bidirectional data exchange can eventually encompass non-communicable diseases.

Thank you!

For updates: www.digitalbridge.us

For questions and input: info@digitalbridge.us