



## Florida Health Information Exchange (HIE) 101 Questions & Answers

During the Florida HIE 101 presentation, there were several noteworthy questions posed to the speaker, Ms. Pamela King, BS, MBA. Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) has captured those questions and consolidated the answers into this document to afford all attendees and post-event viewers the benefit of her remarks.

1. Can you explain DirectTrust accreditation?

DirectTrust is a not-for-profit entity that has established a framework to support the exchange of healthcare information between disparate electronic health record (EHR) systems using the Direct protocol. If your EHR system's email capability is DirectTrust accredited, you should be able to email other healthcare providers who use DirectTrust-accredited email services regardless of EHR vendor. This includes providers using the Florida HIE Direct Messaging Service which is DirectTrust accredited. To determine if your vendor is part of the Direct Trust bundle you can check at <http://www.directtrust.org/accreditation-status/>.

2. If my vendor is not on the Direct Trust list, what does that mean to me?

If your EHR vendor offers a secure email service that is not Direct Trust accredited you may be limited in the providers you can communicate with through your EHR email service. You may want to check with your EHR vendor to see if they plan to become accredited or see if they are partnering with another vendor to offer this service.

3. What are the fees for direct messaging services?

Organizations are charged an initial \$45 fee for an organization certificate and \$45 for credentialing of an organizational representative, plus \$8 per mailbox per month for a required 12-month period; additional organizational representative credentials are \$45 each.

Annual renewals of the certification fee and credentialing fee are \$18 each.

4. If my vendor is not listed on DirectTrust, can I only direct message with other providers within my system?

If your EHR system offers an email service that is not DirectTrust accredited then you would not be able to communicate directly with other providers through their Direct mail box. In some instances, a provider may have set up a portal for other providers to log into and thereby get information from you or you would be limited to providers that use your vendor.

5. Does this satisfy Meaningful Use?

As long as you are referring to a provider that is outside of your practice it does not matter if you use the same vendor for the purposes of meeting the transfer of care MU requirement.

6. How does the proposed rule impact the messaging requirement?

The proposed rule does states that 10 percent of referrals have to be transmitted electronically (see the language below). This is only proposed language and without further guidance, we cannot definitively say at this time how it would impact the messaging requirements.

From the proposed rule:

We propose to update this measure to state simply that a provider would be required to create the summary of care record using certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) and transmit the summary of care record electronically.

Be sure to view the entire event recording to gain a comprehensive understanding of Florida HIE Services, available at HSAG's website: <http://www.hsag.com/en/events/2015/august-2015/florida-health-information-exchange-101/?date=8/1/2015>.