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Better Health Care for all Floridians

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SECRETARY

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Fifth Round of Participants Selected to Join Florida's Health Information Exchange
~Floridians should ask their health care providers to increase communication using electronic health records~

Tallahassee, FL – Four more organizations have been selected to join Florida's Health Information Exchange (HIE), which brings the total number of participants to 22. Each organization pulls together a network of individual health care providers, which enables them to share information within their network and ultimately with other networks across the state.

The technology framework provided by the HIE will enable participating health care providers to timely and securely access patient health information. Patients benefit when health care providers can access their complete medical history including recent test results that may have been ordered by another provider. Provider access to patient records from the Florida HIE requires patient consent so patients are encouraged to discuss any questions they have with their health care provider.

“We are pleased to continue to have more participants join the exchange and to see increased use of electronic health records throughout Florida,” said Liz Dudek, Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration. “Patients should ask their health care providers about electronic health records and whether they participate in health information exchange.”

The selected organizations are Bethesda Health in Boynton Beach, Central Florida HIT Initiative based in Orlando, Naples Community Hospital in Naples, and Senior Home Care based in Clearwater. These organizations were selected to join the exchange because of their readiness for secured sharing of health information with other participants in the Florida HIE.

The Agency has a contract with Harris Corporation to assist with the development the health information exchange infrastructure that will connect health organizations including physicians, hospitals, regional health information exchanges and state government agencies. Organizations already participating include large hospital networks, federally qualified health center networks, regional health information organizations, and the 67 county health departments. Information regarding the project is available on the Florida HIE dashboard: <http://floridahie-eval.fiu.edu>.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 37 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at FloridaHealthFinder.gov. For more information about the health information exchange, visit www.AHCA.MyFlorida.com or <https://www.florida-hie.net>.

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