AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Meeting
Health Information Technology Update
June 3, 2010

HITECH Act

In February 2009, as part of the federal stimulus package, Congress enacted the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act ("HITECH"). The legislation included a number of provisions designed to encourage the adoption and use of health information technology including electronic health records (EHRs) and the development of a health information exchange ("HIE") infrastructure.

Provider Incentive Payments for Use of Electronic Health Records

AHCCCS estimates that Arizona's estimated portion of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) HIT incentives thru Medicaid and Medicare for eligible hospitals and health care providers will be almost $500 million over the next six years.

- $300 million Hospitals
- $200 million for Providers

Incentive Payment funds are available to states beginning January, 2011.

- Eligible Hospitals can participate in both Medicare and Medicaid Incentive Programs
- Eligible Providers need to choose which program they want to receive incentive payments thru

AHCCCS Role In Health Information Technology

- Administer the incentive payments to eligible professionals and hospitals;
- Conduct adequate oversight of the program, including tracking meaningful use by providers; and
- Pursue initiatives to encourage the adoption of certified EHR technology to promote health care quality and the exchange of health care information

Meeting Meaningful Use

To receive Medicare and/or Medicaid incentive payments, an eligible provider or hospital must:

- Be an eligible Provider
- Adopt, Implement or Upgrade a Certified Electronic Health Record (EHR) System
- Prove Meaningful Use by demonstrating use of certified EHR technology by:
    - Electronically capturing health information in a coded format
    - Use information to track key clinical conditions and be able to communicate it for care coordination
    - Produce reports
    - Implement clinical decision support tools

Stages for Meaningful Use:

- Stage 1 in 2011
    - NPRM Stage 1 for Eligible Providers and Hospitals had 23 – 26 measures that must be met
        - Pharmacy Order Entry
        - Demographics
        - Chart changes in vital signs
        - Electronic claim submission
- Stage 2 in 2013
- Stage 3 in 2015

The clinical use, quality reporting measures, and health information exchange criteria for meaningful use are designed to become increasingly more stringent over time.

Medicaid Eligible Providers

- Acute Care Hospitals
    - With at least 10% Medicaid patient mix
- Children's Hospitals
- Eligible Professionals
    - Physicians
    - Dentists
    - Certified Nurse Midwives
    - Nurse Practitioners
    - Physicians assistants in certain circumstances

The EPS must have at least 30% patient volume attributable to Medicaid. Pediatricians with a 20% Medicaid patient volume are eligible for 2/3 standard payment.

Medicare Eligible Providers

- Acute Care Hospitals
- Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)
- Eligible Professionals
    - Physicians
    - Dentists
    - Podiatrists
    - Optometrists
    - Chiropractors

Medicaid Incentive Payment Resource – http://azahcccs.gov

- Created new Health Information Tab (lower right-hand side of AHCCCS home web page)
    - Federal Initiative
    - AHCCCS Role in HIT
    - Electronic Health Record Adoption Incentives (excel worksheet here)
    - Pre-ARRA Agency Activity
    - HIT Resources

Other State Planning HIT/HIE Efforts

Arizona Health-e Connection received ONC Award for Regional Extension Center or REC – up to $14 million possible over 4 years that targets Primary care providers to assist with meeting Meaningful Use.
- General Assistance for providers thru outreach and education, tools and resources in all aspects of EHR and HIT adoption
- Technical assistance like project management, practice and workflow redesign, system implementation , etc

Governor's Office of Economic Recovery (GOER) received $9.3 million from ONC Cooperative Exchange Program to:
- Create a plan describing how stakeholders in AZ want to move forward with HIE statewide and address standards around governance, finance, legal/policy, technical infrastructure, business and technical operations

Merger of Arizona Medical Information Exchange (AMIE) and Southern Arizona Health Information Exchange (SAHIE) to create statewide Health Information Exchange

AHCCCS will meet with tribes, IHS, Urban Indian Health Programs, ACOIHC, and ITCA in late July/August to gather recommendations prior to the final State Medicaid Health Information Technology Plan (SMHP) submission.