



RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH DUDEK  
SECRETARY

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**Contact:** AHCA Communications Office

[AHCACommunications@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:AHCACommunications@ahca.myflorida.com), 850-412-3623

### **Agency Achieves Health Information Exchange Milestone**

*~Florida Health Information Exchange Becomes Participant in the eHealth Exchange ~*

**TALLAHASSEE** – The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) is pleased to announce that the Florida Health Information Exchange (Florida HIE) has joined the eHealth Exchange. This partnership enables health care providers participating in the Florida HIE to exchange health information with participating agencies with proper authorization, and expands the ease of sharing electronic health records including the ability to quickly locate a patient’s records during an emergency.

The eHealth Exchange is a group of federal agencies and non-federal organizations with a common mission to improve patient care, streamline disability benefit claims processing, and improve public health reporting through the secure and trusted exchange of health information.

“The ultimate value of electronic health record technology is when patient records are exchanged effectively to optimize patient care,” said Liz Dudek, Agency Secretary. “The Agency’s sponsorship of the Florida HIE helps fulfill our commitment to achieve this milestone, and the Agency is pleased to recognize this significant achievement in conjunction with Harris Corporation.”

Use of health information exchange can streamline transitions of care when patients move from one health care provider to another such as a hospital discharge to a long term care facility. The ability of health care providers to query the Florida HIE for a patient’s summary of care record can assist providers in coordinating care during these transitions.

“Participation in the eHealth Exchange also enables Florida providers to exchange health information with the Social Security Administration to assist with disability determinations,” said Heidi Fox, Director of the Florida HIE. “Reducing the time needed for disability determinations through electronic exchange benefits patients that need this assistance and help health care providers receive timely payment for services.”

*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 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at [www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov](http://www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov). Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via Facebook (AHCAFlorida), Twitter (@AHCA\_FL) and YouTube (/AHCAFlorida).*



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