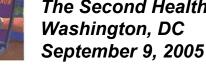
Health Information Sharing: Case Studies for Interoperability

Greg DeBor Partner, Global Health Solutions Computer Sciences Corporation









#### Agenda

- Massachusetts Community and Interoperability History
- NEHEN
- MA-SHARE and the Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative

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ERIENCE, RESULTS.

## Our Community and History<sup>1</sup>

- Massachusetts Health Data Consortium
  - The convener and educational organization, the business incubator
    - Founded 1978
    - Created the Affiliated Health Information Networks of New England in CIO Forum in 1995
- New England Healthcare EDI Network (NEHEN LLC)
  - The transactor of community administrative (HIPAA transaction) data
    - Formed 1997 (incorporated 1998)
    - Proved to the community that collaboration was implementable and sustainable
    - 25 member organizations, 45+ hospitals, 5000+ independent physicians, 3M covered lives
- MA-SHARE (Simplifying Healthcare Among Regional Entities)
  - The grid of community clinical utilities
    - Founded and incorporated as a 501c3 in 2003 (clinical counterpart to NEHEN)
    - First project in 2004 MedsInfo-ED provided medication history for emergency visits
- Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative (MAeHC)
  - The last mile to the clinician offices for three selected communities
    - Formed and incorporated in 2004

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\$50M funding from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts to prove the viability of interoperable electronic health records (EHRs) in Brockton, Newburyport, and North Adams

<sup>1</sup>Halamka, J et al, "Healthcare IT Collaboration in Massachusetts: The Experience of Creating Regional Connectivity", (pre-publication) ©2005 CSC Proprietary. 781-890-7446

Interoperable Electronic Health Record Solutions



MA-SHARE



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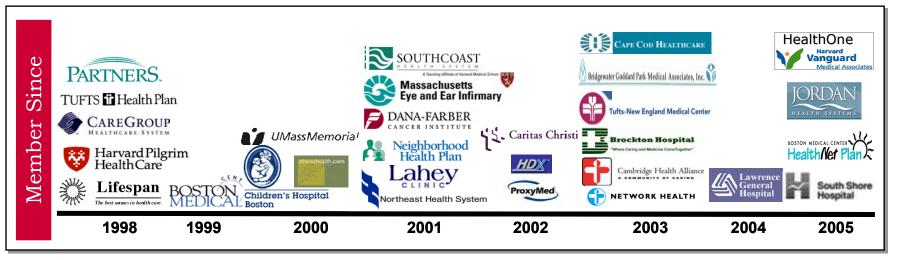


# NEHEN Case Study – Lessons Learned

- Focus on standards
  - -X12N, with common implementation guides for all partners
- Allow flexibility in other places
  - For business expediency (to let others play)
- Adopt a federated model

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 To allay security concerns, reduce costs and allow organizations to retain control of data, implementation details, and business workflow

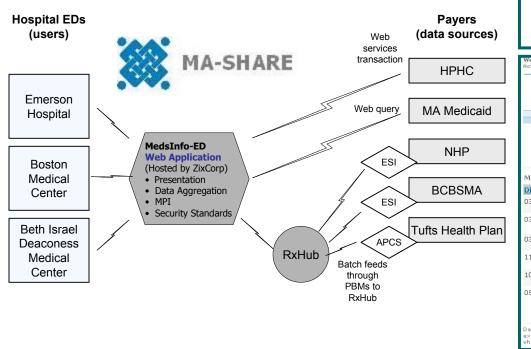






# MA-SHARE Case Study

- Work started with MedsInfo-ED in 2004
  - Pilot to learn about and study clinical data exchange
  - Developed with ZixCorp and RxHub



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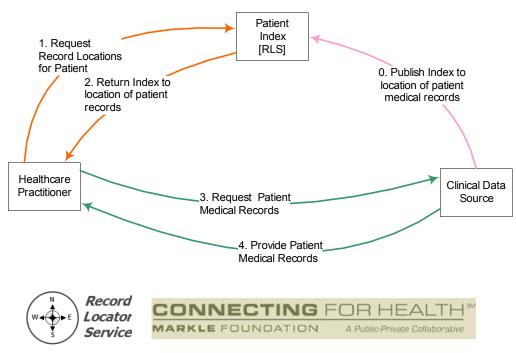




# MA-SHARE Case Study – Current Work

- Record Locator Service prototype funded by the Markle Foundation's Connecting for Health project
  - Objective is to create a "Reference Implementation" to stimulate and support national efforts
  - Functionality
    - Publish patient index (record location) from local data source to central registry (simulating registration / ADT events)
    - Acquire address (record location) of source EHR system and/or local patient index from central registry
    - Retrieve medical data directly from data source in a federated architecture

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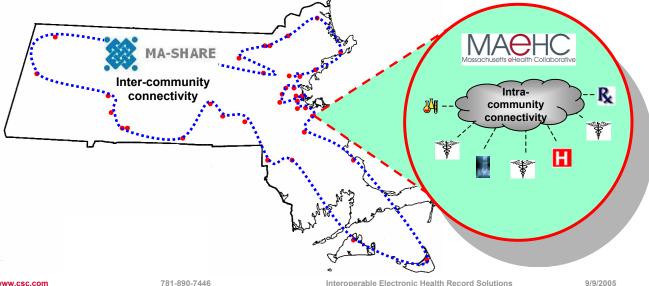


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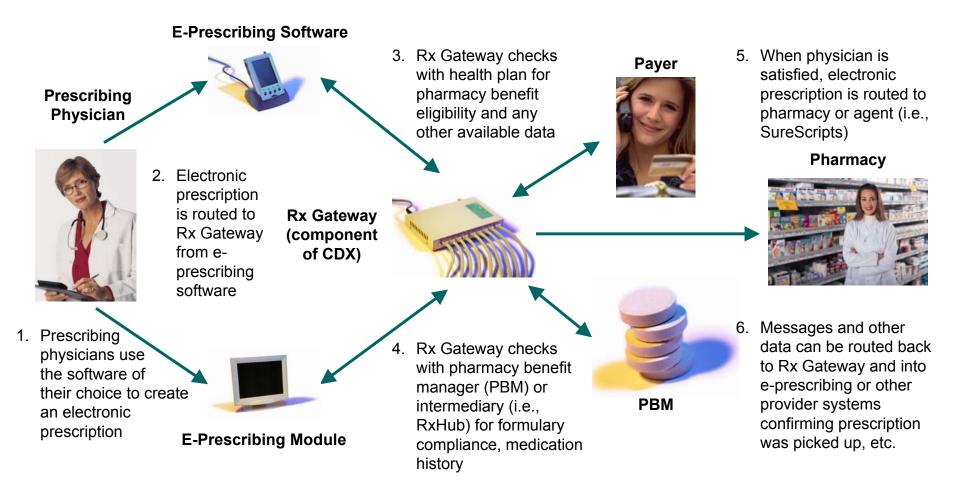
## MA-SHARE – Next Steps

- Develop the Markle RLS prototype into a public-private clinical data exchange utility for Massachusetts
  - Release 1.0 of the MA-SHARE Clinical Data Exchange (CDX)
    - Hosted Record Locator Service
    - Distributed and federated CDX Gateways
- Support both intercommunity (MA-SHARE) and intracommunity (MAeHC) connectivity





# MA-SHARE – Moving from Infrastructure to Projects with the RxGateway





#### Massachusetts Case Study Conclusions

- As with many large projects, work begins with infrastructure and infrastructure begins with standards
  - Based on existing and external work (national and international)
  - Validated through the Markle RLS Reference Implementation
  - As determined by MAeHC for EHRs in their communities
- NEHEN set a strong foundation
  - Standards, openness

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- Collaborative relationships and trust simple governance model
- Cost-sharing and discernible ROI for all parties
- We are moving from the simple to the complex in an orderly and step-wise fashion
  - Structured and mature data sets of X12 and EDI before testing or "breaking trail" with HL7, XML and web services
  - Starting with what we have experience in the clinical domain (medications) before tackling additional use cases
- Healthcare information sharing can occur in manageable and deliverable timeframes, but Massachusetts' experience is that it takes many years of sustained effort to achieve proven results

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