



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Kansas Statewide Electronic Health Information Exchange to Debut July 1**

**Topeka, Kan.**—A statewide electronic health information exchange capability will “go live” on July 1. This new service offers simplified communications capabilities to health care providers who are involved in treating the same patient and thereby collaborating to improve patient care.

Many health care providers and hospitals have signed on to participate in two Electronic Health Information Exchange services that have been approved to operate in Kansas. The two exchanges are the Kansas Health Information Network (KHIN) and the Lewis and Clark Information Exchange (LACIE). Health care providers who diagnose and treat a patient can quickly and securely access the exchanges to electronically obtain medical history from other providers who may have previously been involved in treating that same patient. This access will allow health care providers to ensure that prescriptions are compatible with medications the patient may have obtained from other health care providers. This also avoids inconvenience and costs that arise from repeating tests that may have been performed previously. Ready and secure access to a patient’s medical history could also prove to be a critical factor in a life-threatening emergency.

Health Information Exchanges require that patient records be kept on Electronic Health Record (EHR) systems in order to be exchanged. In addition to the larger urban areas, over 1,450 medical providers in small practices and 95 hospitals have committed to implement EHR systems. Thus Kansas providers are now positioned to take advantage of the exchanges. For more information on these initiatives, interested persons should visit the website at [www.khie.org](http://www.khie.org).

The Kansas Health Information Exchange, Inc. (KHIE) is a non-profit charitable organization created by the State of Kansas in 2010. KHIE was created for the purpose of assuring the availability of statewide health information exchange and promulgating and ensuring compliance with policies and standards that govern statewide health information exchange. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has fiduciary responsibility for Health Information Technology and Health Information Exchange in the State of Kansas.

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