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Information Sharing Initiatives

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Agenda



What is information sharing?



- Who are the stakeholders?
- How to structure your information sharing initiatives?
- When do you need a datasharing agreement?





What is Information Sharing?



 Service providers within a defined service system sharing personal health information of their mutual patients/clients to facilitate healthcare delivery





What is Information Sharing?



- What are you doing with the PHI?
 - Allowing agent, HIC or electronic provider to access
 PHI for specific purposes
 - Sharing of PHI with other HICs and/or non-HICs





Who are the Stakeholders?



Funder/Paymaster



Lead/Host



- Participant/Recipient
- Technology Provider





How to Structure Your Information Sharing Initiative?



 Contractual agreements needed to set out the responsibilities and accountabilities of all stakeholders





Funding Arrangements

- Funding for administration and for technology
- Various funding sources Ministry, LHIN, Canada Health Infoway, eHealth, Ontario MD etc.
 - Funding may be available to the lead/host
 - Funding may be available to the participant/recipient
 - Funding relationships will drive governance model of the initiative
- Ensure funding arrangements are documented and clear on what is covered and what is not



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 One organization will often be identified as the lead/host of the initiative



 The lead/host will be responsible for management/administration of the data sharing operations, procurement of necessary goods and services, relationships with third parties



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The lead/host may be the only party accountable to the paymasters



 The lead/host may be an agent of the group of participants OR may purely provide service to participants







- If you are the lead/host acting on behalf of the participant group ensure agreement with the group that
 - Sets out your authority to act as agent
 - Defines the obligations of participants
 - Shares/distributes risk among the participant group for actions taken as agent on behalf of the group
 - Outlines governance framework for group decisionmaking
 - Outlines process for participants to join, withdraw, be terminated



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- If you are the lead/host providing services to participants then ensure a service agreement with each participant that
 - Sets the terms of the service delivery
 - Defines the obligations of the participant
 - Allocates risks between the lead and the individual participant
- Much simpler arrangement







Participant/Recipient



• Very different roles depending on relationship with lead organization



 Always responsible for own site and site access/use of data





Where Does Datasharing Fit In?



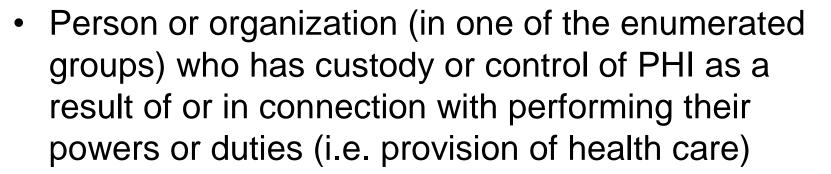
- Starting point what is status under PHIPA?
 - Health information custodian (HIC)
 - Agent
 - Electronic provider
 - Health information network provider (HINP)
 - Recipient
- Status will drive relationships/rules
- May have more than one role





Determining Status Under PHIPA – Health Information Custodian (HIC)

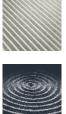




→ List includes: health practitioner, person who operates a group practice of health practitioners, service providers, CCAC, hospital, psychiatric facility, independent health facility, long term care home, laboratory, ambulance service, etc.

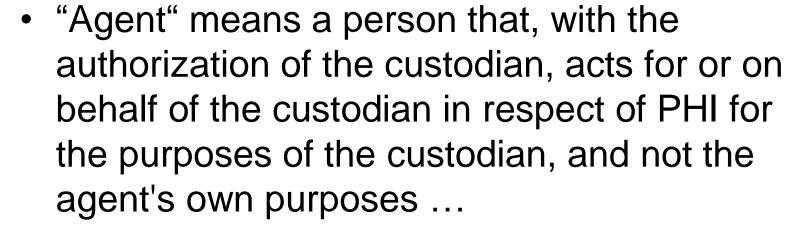






Agent





→ May be context specific i.e. independent practice versus organizational based practice



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Status is Not Always Clear



• Family health teams – FHT, doctors, combination



- Multi-practitioner clinics each practitioner/ operator of group practice
- Ministry programs
- Occupational health / vocational health
- HICs working for non-HICs



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Implications for Information Sharing ...



- Who is the HIC?
 - PHIPA does **NOT** always prescribe, but responsibilities must still be met
 - Custody or control of PHI
 - Ownership vs. custody
 - Ownership is not determinative of status under PHIPA, but important consideration
- NOT CLEAR under PHIPA, therefore, <u>must</u> set out in contractual agreements

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Elements of Datasharing Agreement



Compliance with privacy laws



- Roles under PHIPA (i.e. information practices, contact person, access and correction requests, disposal, retention etc.)
- Ownership, transfer and termination
- Operational issues (i.e. access management, audit, monitoring, privacy breach, lock box)
- Privacy and security framework common rules/minimum standards



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When Do You Need a Datasharing Agreement?



- Recommended
 - When you are sharing PHI among more than one HIC
 - When a HIC will be given access to your clients/patients
- Required
 - HINP must enter into a written agreement with each HIC



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Health Information Network Provider



- a person who provides services to two or more HICs where the services are provided <u>primarily</u> to custodians to enable the custodians to use electronic means to disclose PHI to one another
 - → IT, operational, privacy support services as a HINP



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General Provider Requirements



PHI to be used only as necessary to perform the services



- No disclosure permitted by provider
- Agents of provider only permitted access to PHI if they agree to be bound by same obligations
- Notification requirement (to custodian) if general requirements are not met or there has been access by unauthorized persons





HINP Obligations



• Written Description of Services



Audit Trail



- Threat and Risk Analysis and Privacy Impact Assessment
- General Compliance Provisions



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