



Health Information Exchange Strategic and Operational Plan Profile

Overview

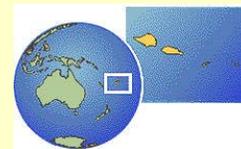
The Health Information Exchange (HIE) vision for the American Samoa territory is to provide a platform that enables the secure exchange of information transforming health care by improving quality of care, patient safety, efficiency and outcomes in a manner that is sustainable. Specifically, American Samoa's goals are to improve patient care and safety for people of the islands, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the territory's health care system through the use of health information technology for system administration and health information sharing, and, finally, to improve the framework for public health reporting. American Samoa is the only United States territory in the Southern hemisphere. The seven islands of American Samoa lie just below the Equator, approximately 2,300 miles southwest of Hawaii and 1600 miles northeast of New Zealand. The majority of the population lives on the main island of Tutuila. The health care delivery system in American Samoa is organized and structured in terms of basic medical services provided to the community primarily by the public sector.

The Governor of American Samoa designated the Pacific E-Commerce Development Corporation (eCDC) as the state designated entity to implement the American Samoa Health Information Exchange (ASHIE). The overall strategy of American Samoa is to build off of existing core functionalities of the VistA system in a phased approach. The American Samoa Medical Center Authority (ASMCA), the one hospital in American Samoa, and the American Samoa Department of Health (AS-DOH) entered into a basic health information sharing agreements for the sharing of a unified Electronic Health Record (EHR) using the VistA system. This allowed the five AS-DOH clinics to maximize limited financial and technical resources and enable the foundation for health information exchange with ASMCA. Therefore, essentially all providers in American Samoa are using the VistA system. American Samoa needs to upgrade VistA in order to exchange structured data for laboratory results, summary care records and enable e-prescribing.

The lab strategy is for ASMCA to update their internal laboratory information system (LIS) to integrate with VistA. Additionally, Diagnostic Laboratory Services (DLS), based in Honolulu, Hawai'i will develop a Health Level Seven (HL7) interface to the VistA system, as a large percentage of lab services for patients in American Samoa are provided by DLS.

State:

American Samoa



HIT Coordinator:

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Award Amount: \$600,000

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(currently unavailable).



Model and Services

American Samoa, similar to other Pacific territories, is in a unique situation regarding the EHR Incentive Program. The ASMCA is the only Medicaid eligible provider in American Samoa, qualified as an acute care hospital under the eligibility criteria. The ASHIE and the Hawaii-Pacific REC will work with ASMCA to continuously assess options to determine the best course of action in Phase one for meeting MU requirements, including HIE requirements, if the Vista system is not certified.

ASHIE intends to offer Direct secure messaging to enable exchange of medical information to providers in other states and territories. They are looking for ways to accomplish this in collaboration with Hawaii and the other territories. In Phase two, ASHIE will further support the implementation and customization of VistA and Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN) Connect in order to interact with more robust exchanges and federal partners, and functionalities to support public health reporting.



Highlights

- **Structured Laboratory Results:** American Samoa is working in collaboration with the other Pacific Island territories and Diagnostic Laboratory Services (DLS) in Honolulu, as DLS is a major lab in Hawaii-Pacific region, to integrate with the HIE infrastructure.
- **Provider Directory:** The Pacific eCDC will work with the HIE in Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI), Hawai'i, and the Hawai'i-Pacific REC to develop directories of providers in the Pacific region.
- **Collaboration with federal partners and the University of Hawaii:** American Samoa is already participating in the collaborative State Telehealth Access Network (STAN), which provides the backbone network for 45 health care provider programs throughout Hawai'i and the Pacific Islands Region. American Samoa is also a member of the Pacific Broadband Telehealth Demonstration Project of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission that is being coordinated by the University of Hawaii. Through this project, American Samoa will seek to establish the network infrastructure both for internal HIE between the ASMCA and the municipal clinics including the FQHC's throughout Tutuila, and on the islands of Ta'u and Ofu, and to interconnect with the State of Hawaii health care providers. It is anticipated that the network infrastructure will also support the NwHIN network connections as they emerge over time.



Meaningful Use

	Landscape	Strategy
<u>E-Prescribing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One pharmacy in American Samoa that is located at ASMCA. • Use of the pharmacy module has proven significant in the return time for prescriptions, monitoring tool for drug use and workload and reducing duplicate prescriptions. • Inpatient pharmacy at ASMCA is partially implemented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS HIE intends to use Direct secure messaging solution to enable exchange of medication information to providers outside of ASMCA network who do not have EHRs and Surescripts. • Collaborate with the Hawai'i REC to train pharmacists and providers to use secure messaging capabilities effectively. • Enable inpatient pharmacy infrastructure to assure complete and comprehensive medication history for all patients.
<u>Structured Lab Results</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two laboratories provide services on AS - one laboratory at ASMCA and the other at Diagnostic Laboratory Services (DLS) in Honolulu • ASMCA requires an upgrade to VistA in order to participate in lab results delivery. • Currently, the off-site reference lab specialty tests and results sent off to Diagnostic Labs Services in Honolulu, DLS are not entered back into lab package as reference values, but as an image of the result viewable by document imaging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with Diagnostic Laboratory Services to use an HL7 interface enable direct delivery of lab results into the VistA EHR. • The ASMCA will be implementing a new laboratory information system (LIS) and is currently working with a vendor on an HL7 interface to Veterans Administration (VA) VistA. The LIS vendor has already installed their product with an Open VistA system successfully. The ASHIE will work with ASMCA in supporting the LIS VA VistA interface. • ASHIE will be facilitating and implementing the NwHIN Direct implementation, where appropriate for patient profiles and laboratory information and public health data exchange.
<u>Patient Care Summary</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because, broadband capacity is a weakness, the 5 AS-DOH Clinics have access to basic VistA EHR modules but they are not able to use all the VistA modules. • ASMCA and AS DOH providers do not have ability to exchange electronically with providers in other entities. • Patients do not have the capability to request or receive information in electronic format. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AS HIE is working with the American Samoa Government and Broadband Task Force to support HIT adoption. • Use Direct secure messaging to enable exchange between ASMCA, AS DOH and other providers outside the VistA system.



HIE Inventory

Standards		Quality Improvement	
Nationwide Health Information Network Exchange Specifications	X	Care Coordination	
Nationwide Health Information Network CONNECT	X	Quality Reporting	
Nationwide Health Information Network DIRECT	X	Behavioral Health Information Exchange	
Plans to exchange with federal agencies or other states via Nationwide Health Information specifications	X		
Public Health		Lab Strategy	
Electronic lab reporting of notifiable conditions	X	Translation services	
Syndromic surveillance	X	EHR interface	
Immunization data to an immunization registry	X	Policy strategy	
Patient Engagement		Order Compendium	
Patient Access/PHR	X	Bi-Directional	
Blue Button		Alignment with CLIA	
Patient Outreach		E-Prescribing	
Privacy and Security		Medication History	
Privacy and Security Framework based on FIPS		Incentive or grants to independents	
Individual choice (Opt In/Opt Out/hybrid)	TBD	Plan for controlled substance	
Authentication Services		Set goal for 100% participation	
Audit Log		Controlled substance strategy	
Administrative Simplification		Care Summaries	
Electronic eligibility verification		Translation services	
Electronic claims transactions		CCD/CCR Repository	
Vendor		Directories	
Planning		Provider Directory	
Core Services		Master Patient Index	
		Record Locator Services	
		Health Plan Directory	
		Directory of licensed clinical laboratories	

Information for this profile was obtained from the approved Operational and Strategic Plan submitted to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology as a condition of the Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement. The complete plan can be downloaded at: <http://statehieresources.org/>

