

**Version 3**  
**Revised DRAFT:**

**Guiding Principles for  
Health Information Exchange Services\*  
in Connecticut**

Revised for discussion  
at the February 16, 2017  
Health IT Advisory Council meeting

**BACKGROUND:**

On November 17, 2016, the statewide Connecticut Health Information Technology Advisory Council (Council) held a discussion at their monthly meeting about the need for a set of guiding principles to use when making recommendations as a Council about health information technology (health IT) investments and health information exchange (HIE) services in Connecticut. During the November meeting, Council members reviewed an initial set of draft guiding principles which had been adapted by staff from the tenants of Public Act 16-77 and from previous Council meeting discussions. Several revisions to the draft guiding principles were suggested by Council members, and a second version of draft guiding principles was developed for the Council's consideration at the December 15, 2016 Council meeting.

At the December meeting Council members weighed in on the second version of draft guiding principles and recommended additional revisions. Staff and CedarBridge consultants have since retooled the earlier version through a series of iterations, striving to stay true to the legislative guidance in Public Act 16-77 and to represent the values expressed by Council members and Connecticut stakeholders over the course of many discussions about the potential for health information exchange services to have positive impacts on the health of Connecticut residents by improving the quality and affordability of healthcare delivery in Connecticut.

The guiding principles proposed in *Version 3 Revised Draft: Guiding Principles for Health Information Exchange Services in Connecticut* will be considered by the Council during the February 16, 2017 meeting. In order to have the most productive discussion possible at the meeting, ***we request that Council members submit comments and suggestions in advance, preferably by noon on Wednesday February 15, via email to [Faina.Dookh](mailto:Faina.Dookh) and [Wayne@cedarbridgegroup.com](mailto:Wayne@cedarbridgegroup.com).***

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

### For Health Information Exchange Services\* in Connecticut

*\* Health information exchange services should be considered to include all electronic health information exchange technology that is implemented, maintained, or administered by any organization conducting business in Connecticut, including the State of Connecticut.*

1. Connecticut health information exchange services should be patient-centered with an emphasis on ease of use, accessibility, and control over any use and/or disclosure of information beyond what is permitted under the Health Information Portability Authorization Act (HIPAA), 42 CFR Part 2, and other relevant state and federal regulations.
2. Connecticut health information exchange services should be easy to use by providers in care delivery with an emphasis on efficiency, interoperability, ease of use, and integration into clinical systems and workflows.
3. Organizations providing health information exchange services in Connecticut should adopt technology solutions that use approved national standards, when such standards are available.
4. Organizations providing health information exchange services in Connecticut should adhere to state and federal regulations.
5. Organizations providing health information exchange services in Connecticut should monitor and adopt industry best practices to deliver cost effective, sustainable services to system users.
6. Organizations providing health information exchange services in Connecticut should adopt “plug and play” solutions that can be rapidly deployed and will connect easily with other health IT systems across the continuum of patient care, including with technology solutions operated by the state.
7. Electronic health information exchange should deliver value by improving the quality, safety, and affordability of healthcare delivery.
8. Organizations providing health information exchange services in Connecticut should support and promote strong data stewardship policies to improve the accuracy and availability of health data.
9. Governance of health information exchange services should be as streamlined as possible while also being inclusive of participating stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of services needed by system users.
10. Organizations providing health information exchange services in Connecticut should have a proven track record of effective management and efficient delivery of technology solutions that address the needs of system users.