CCHIE Increases Access to Care Documents in Eastern North Carolina

Wilmington, N.C., August 10, 2016 - Coastal Connect Health Information Exchange (CCHIE) is proud to announce the successful completion of the onboarding requirements for exchanging clinical documents on the national eHealth Exchange, an initiative of the Sequoia Project (formerly Healtheway). This achievement marks CCHIE's continued mission focus to make care information available electronically to care providers *at the point of care* to improve health care delivery and outcomes for citizens in Eastern North Carolina. CCHIE is a regional model HIE established by its stakeholders: Dosher Memorial, New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Pender Memorial, Southeastern Health, and Wilmington Health. In 2013, CCHIE completed the first HIE to HIE connection with Carolinas HealthCare System CareConnect, extending CCHIE's initial eleven county footprint to include accessing care documents from healthcare providers located in the central and western regions of the state.

Through completion of connection to the eHealth Exchange, CCHIE has once again expanded access to their care provider participants by making its first eHealth connection to Vidant Health. In real time, CCHIE participants are able to securely query and retrieve care summary documents for encounters for their patient population at Vidant facilities to ensure patient-centric care transition between communities. CCHIE is now listed as a Participating Member of the eHealth Exchange initiative http://sequoiaproject.org/ehealth-exchange/participants/.

About Vidant Health
Vidant Health is a regional health system serving 29 counties in eastern North Carolina for the improvement of health for the 1.4 million people they serve. Vidant Health is made up of eight hospitals, physician practices, home health, hospice, wellness centers and other health care services.

What is the eHealth Exchange?

The eHealth Exchange, the largest HIE Network in the US, is comprised of participating members spanning all 50 states who share clinical information securely. Utilizing a common set of standards and specifications to support secure communication connections, participating members standardize the flow of information. The network was incubated by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (HHS) as the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN) and transitioned to function as an independent initiative, supported by The Sequoia Project (formerly Healtheway) in 2012 to begin private sector stewardship of the network. Current eHealth Exchange

participants include large provider networks, hospitals, pharmacies, regional health information exchanges and many federal agencies, representing 40% of all U.S. hospitals, tens of thousands of medical groups, more than 8,000 pharmacies and 100 million patients. To learn more about eHealth Exchange, visit the Sequoia Project http://sequoiaproject.org/

Media Contact: Anne Marie Robertson, amrobertson@coastalalliance.org