



What is a Health Information Exchange?

A Health Information Exchange (HIE) is the secure electronic sharing of patient health information among participating health care providers and other health care entities. The purpose of the HIE is to improve coordination and efficiency of health care services for patients. HIE participants are required to meet rules that protect the privacy and security of your health and personal information.

How does an HIE benefit you?

In order to provide safe, efficient, and effective care, we have partnered with a number of “Health Information Exchanges” which allow sharing of your health information across secure data networks. This means that if you require emergency or specialist care outside of your normal “medical home,” your providers (including potentially doctors, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, laboratories, skilled nursing facilities) who participate in the same HIEs can have access to a more complete medical history without delay.

Why would I want to opt out?

By default, in California, HIEs are “opt-out,” meaning that every patient is automatically enrolled unless they choose not to share their information, and you can choose to opt-out at any time if you have privacy concerns. You may decide to remain enrolled with one HIE while opting out of others, but if you opt out of all HIEs, your healthcare team may not have all of the needed information to provide safe/effective care in an urgent/emergent situation. Due to specific regulations and laws, certain patient data is not transmitted to our HIEs, even if you are opted in for your data sharing, including: public health billing information, client billing, Family Pact, patient data for patients aged 12-17 years old, self-pay encounters, and certain sensitive/protected diagnoses/problems/labs/results.

What information is shared through the HIE?

- Office Visit Dates
- Lab Results
- Vital Signs
- Medication List
- Allergies
- Vaccinations
- Health Conditions
- Past Medical History

How do I Opt Out?

Some of your data may be difficult or impossible to delete after sharing with an HIE. For details scan the QR code to the right or visit:

www.vchca.org/health-information-exchange

