# **DHIN Dialogue**

# December 2020

A Newsletter from Delaware Health Information Network



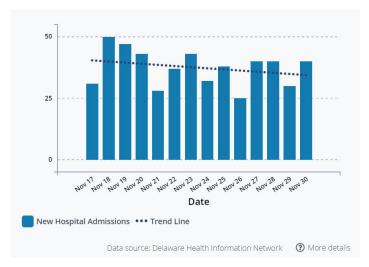
## Delaware's Response to COVID-19

DHIN's Role in Supporting Public Health Efforts

Pandemic fatigue is real, but as Governor John Carney reminded us in a recent press conference, "We are all tired of COVID. But COVID isn't tired of us."

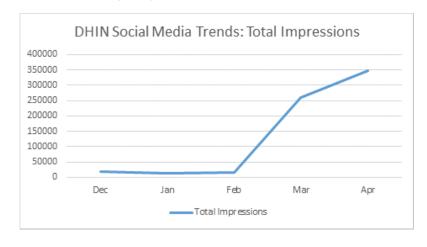
Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) continues to devote much of our time and resources to supporting the important public health work of the State of Delaware. We supply a 14-day hospitalization trend report – provided on a daily basis and included in Governor Carney's weekly update – as well as several other services, including:

## New Hospital Admissions (Confirmed and Suspected with COVID-19)





Additionally, DHIN was early out of the gate with external communications via our social media channels. The below graphs show the biggest spikes in impressions (number of times content is shown) and engagement (number of actions taken with content), which occurred at the beginning of the pandemic:



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### Welcome Aboard!

While the pandemic has consumed much of our time and focus, we'd be remiss if we didn't announce the addition of some new faces to the DHIN team.



Brian Cohen, RN, PMP, CPHIMS is our newest hire, bringing his experience as a healthcare IT professional and a registered nurse to the DHIN team as a project manager/business analyst.





Gurpreet Kaur Krishna Vasireddy

DHIN's analytics team grew by two earlier this year with the addition of public health physician **Gurpreet Kaur**, MBBS, DA, MBA,

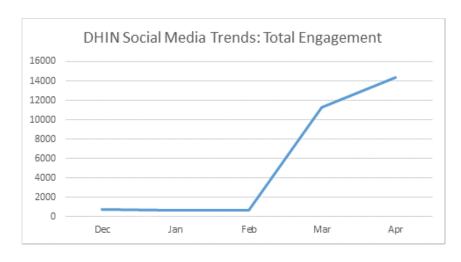
MS as a senior healthcare research analyst and **Krishna Vasireddy**, PharmD, MSHI as a healthcare research analyst.



And former contractor **Charos Apeah**, a Del State graduate with a bachelor's in Management Information Systems, is now a full-time employee with DHIN's Service Desk.

All four have hit the ground running, and we are grateful for their contributions to DHIN in such a short time!

### Delaware's Response to COVID-19 ... continued



As Delaware fights rising hospitalization rates, and we all prepare for the inevitable growth in cases as more of our interactions move indoors in winter, be sure to visit the Delaware Division of Public Health's dedicated site, <a href="de.gov/coronavirus">de.gov/coronavirus</a>, and the data dashboard at <a href="My Healthy Community">My Healthy Community</a>.



## Federal Leadership Visits First State



Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan (center), with DHIN representatives (L-R) Stacey Schiller, Randy Farmer, Mark Jacobs and Scott Perkins

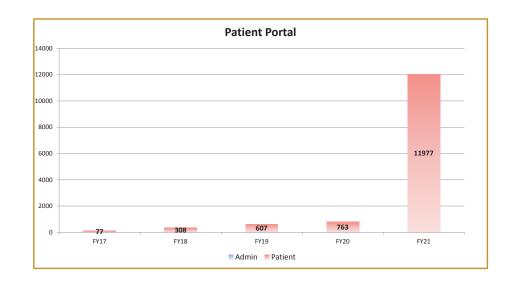
During his visits with healthcare leaders in Delaware, **Eric D. Hargan** (center), Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, visited the DHIN office to learn about our commitment to the State's COVID-19 response. In the Secretary's first visit to an HIE, this was a great opportunity to demonstrate both the value of health information exchanges nationwide and the unique role DHIN plays in Delaware's healthcare ecosystem.



## Health Check Connect Puts COVID-19 Results at Your Fingertips

One phenomenon to come out of COVID-19 has been the incredible adoption of DHIN's personal health record, Health Check Connect.





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### Health Check Connect Puts COVID-19 Results at Your Fingertips ... continued

Through this service, provided free of charge, users can safely and securely view their test results and clinical records, read submitted doctors' notes and add prescription information and data from health tracking devices.

In July 2020, Delaware's Division of Public Health (DPH) approached DHIN for a solution to make COVID-19 test results available to patients and allow for the results to be printed as proof of status. Without DHIN's patient portal solution, DPH's already stretched staff was responsible for a labor-intensive process of drafting, printing and mailing letters verifying status, which added a delay of days or even weeks to patients anxious for their COVID-19 status verification.

By offering <u>Health Check Connect</u> to the thousands of Delaware patients who can receive free COVID-19 tests at nearly a dozen participating Walgreens locations statewide, DHIN helps to reduce an administrative burden on the Division of Public Health and introduces the personal health record service to thousands who otherwise might not be made aware.

As of early November, more than 12,000 Delaware residents have enrolled in this free service, and we anticipate continued interest in the service as Delaware's focus on COVID-19 testing intensifies through the winter months.

\*At this time, users see data from the past two years. Due to legal restrictions, this service is currently only available to adults 18 and older.

# Does your practice need a patient portal?



DHIN can customize the experience for your practice, empowering your patients to access their data in one place, with one login ID and password. Contact your DHIN Business Relationship Manager for more information.

## Deepening the Data Pool

DHIN is pleased to welcome three new data senders to the network. The addition of Curative, Progenity and BioReference Labs increases the amount of clinical data available in the Community Health Record and expands the resources necessary for care coordination.



**Curative** processes approximately 70,000 tests a day, including a record of nearly 13,500 administered in Delaware the Monday preceding Thanksgiving, and a turnaround averaging less than 29 hours from sample collection to result delivery.

"The addition of Curative as a data sender to DHIN is an important step in continuity of care," said Dr. Jan Lee, DHIN's Chief Executive Officer. "Curative joins the State of Delaware's lab and other private labs in ensuring Delaware's healthcare providers have access to their patients' current COVID-19 results, which is critical for necessary monitoring and follow-up care."

### Deepening the Data Pool ... continued





California-based Progenity develops and commercializes molecular testing, including in-vitro tests, while BioReference Laboratories, headquartered in New Jersey, is a nationwide full-service specialty lab. United Medical's Maternity and Women's Health practice contracts with Progenity, and Union Hospital, based in Elkton, Maryland, uses BioReference.

Please note: Practices will need to activate their Progenity and BioReference account numbers to enable the results transmission to DHIN. Your sales rep should be able to assist with that information.

To date, DHIN partners with 36 data senders, including hospitals, labs, radiology firms and other health information exchanges, to provide clinical results for more than three million patients from all fifty states.

## **Getting in Touch**

**DHIN Business Relationship Managers** 

#### **Michael MacDonald**

Hospitals: Christiana Care and Union (and any practices related to the hospitals)

Practices: All of Newark; Elkton, North East, Perryville, Rising Sun and Havre de Grace (MD); West Grove, Jennersville, Oxford, Landenberg, Kennett Square (PA)

michael.macdonald@dhin.org / (302) 604-8526

### **Eddie Seaton**

Hospitals: Nemours and Saint Francis (and any practices related to the hospitals)

Practices: All of Wilmington, Elsmere, Newport, Hockessin,

Greenville; West Chester, Philadelphia (PA)

ed.seaton@dhin.org / (302) 747-6250

#### **Garrett Murawski**

Hospitals: Bayhealth and PRMC (and any practices related to the hospitals)

State of Delaware: Organizations and Departments

Datasenders: PS, AKUMIN, DDI, AccuRefLabs, CNMRI, MDI,

OMI, MedExpress

Practices: New Castle, Bear; Chesapeake City, Earlville, Cecilton, Chestertown, Warwick (MD); Delaware City, Middletown, Townsend, Smyrna, Camden

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### **Brooke Clogg**

Hospitals: Beebe, Atlantic General, Nanticoke (and any

practices related to the hospitals) Practices: All of Milford and below

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