

Updates from the Mass Hlway



## Mass Hlway News & Updates

Welcome to the June edition of the Mass Hlway Newsletter. Questions or comments? Email us at [MassHlway@state.ma.us](mailto:MassHlway@state.ma.us).

[Visit Our Website](#)

### Updates from the HIT Council: June 6, 2016

**Important!** The information provided below is a high level overview of the presentation at the HIT Council. Please refer to the full HIT Council presentation [here](#) for more information. Reference slides are noted in the highlights below.

Regulations are needed to clarify two parts of M.G.L. Chapter 118I:

1. The opt in/opt out mechanism. Section 11 states that *"Any plan approved by the executive office... shall establish a mechanism to allow patients to opt-in to the health information exchange and to opt-out at any time."*
2. The statutory requirement, which states that *"all providers in the Commonwealth shall implement fully interoperable electronic health record systems that connect to the statewide health information exchange for providers to connect by January 2017."*

**Important!** This is a high level overview of proposed regulations that are currently under review and should not be considered a final rule. There will be a formal public comment period once this review is completed.

**Proposed Opt in/Opt out Mechanism** will focus on the 2 Mass Hlway functionalities. (See [slide 5](#))

**1- Direct Messaging- a secure mode of transmission, where the Mass Hlway does not store information.** (See [slide 6](#))

- All existing state and federal requirements and laws will still apply.
- EOHHS anticipates that if federal and state rules (e.g. HIPAA, 42 CFR Part 2) permit the use and disclosure of information, then Participants may transmit via Direct Messaging the same way they are permitted to fax the information.

**2- Hlway Sponsored Services- Relationship Listing Service (RLS) and Event Notification Service (ENS- for future release) where the Hlway does store information.** (See [slide 7](#))

- **Opt-In:** EOHHS anticipates that Participants will be able to give patients public notice. May include posters, handouts, inclusion in the NPP, web portal banner, letter or

email. Sample language will be provided.

- **Opt-Out:** EOHHS anticipates a centralized opt out mechanism, where Participants have an option for additional local opt-in/opt-out mechanism. Educational materials will be developed.

**Proposed Connectivity Requirement.** EOHHS anticipates that the connectivity requirement will describe and define the following:

- *Who must connect?* Will include a list by provider organization type with definitions. (See slides 11-12)
- *What does it mean to connect?* This is to be defined further, however EOHHS anticipates that organizations will need to be connected and attest to implementation of a use case of applicable Mass Hlway services. The initial requirement will be use of Hlway Direct Messaging for at least one specific use case. Later, acute care hospitals also will need to submit ADTs to the Statewide Event Notification Service (ENS). Implemented at the organization level, not at the individual practitioner level. (See slides 13-15)
- *When must Providers connect?* EOHHS anticipates that a phased in approach by organization type will start by January 2017. Anticipate that notice will be given at least 1 year in advance for planning purposes. (See slide 16)
- *What are the fees and penalties?* Fees will still apply for use of the Mass Hlway. Penalties will be defined and addressed according to the statute. (See slide 16)
- *What is a fully interoperable EHR?* As no national standard exists, EOHHS anticipates that "fully interoperable" will initially be defined as the ability to send Direct Messages over the Hlway, and providers will need to attest to what EHRs are in use. (See slide 17)

**Important!** This information offers a high level overview of the the current set of proposals for the regulations that are under discussion. The current proposed timeline is as follows:

- **July 2016:** Engage stakeholders about the draft proposals.
- **August-October 2016:** Public hearing and comments period.
- **November/December 2016:** Final regulations promulgated.

**Comments or questions?** Contact us at [MassHlway@state.ma.us](mailto:MassHlway@state.ma.us).

## Mass Hlway Participation Update

### New Participants in March- May:

Cape Cod Dermatology  
 Children's Health Care  
 Cohasset Pediatrics  
 Community VNA  
 Execute Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA)  
 Gilchrist, Mark G MD, LLC.  
 Hallmark Health Medical Associates  
 Health & Social Services Consortium (HESSCO)  
 Heywood Pediatrics  
 Old Colony YMCA  
 Pediatrics at 1180  
 Pulmonary Critical Care & Allergy Assoc, Inc.

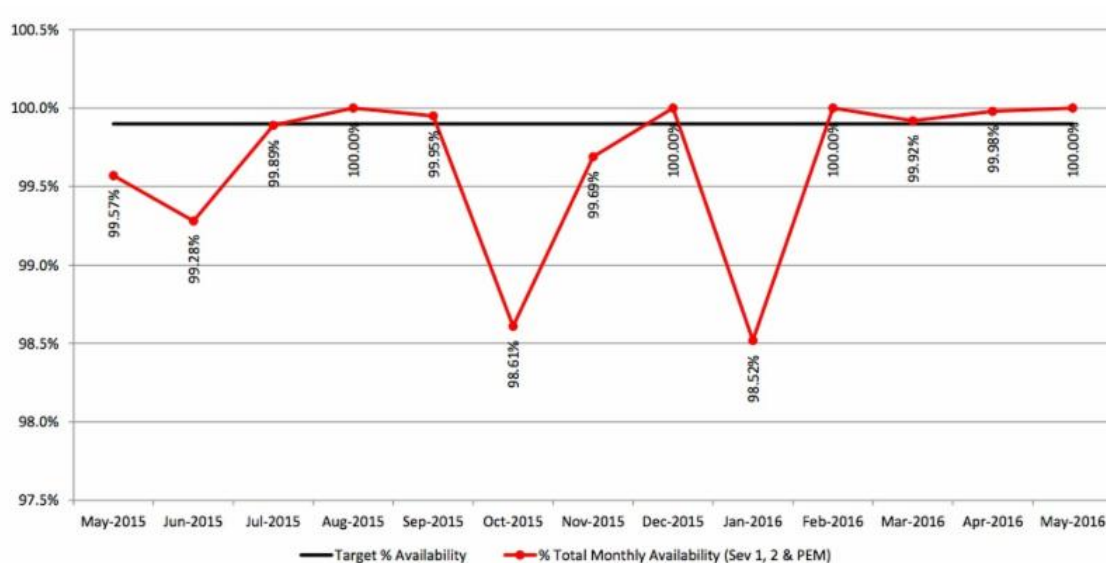
### New Connections in March- May:

Community VNA  
 Execute Office of Elder Affairs  
 Gilchrist, Mark G. MD, LLC.  
 Hallmark Health Medical Associates  
 Health & Social Services Consortium (HESSCO)  
 Heywood Pediatrics

Ludlow Medical Center (Gino Mercandante, MD, PC)  
 Marion Pediatrics  
 Old Colony YMCA  
 Pediatrics at 1180  
 Pulmonary Critical Care & Allergy Assoc, Inc.  
 South Shore Dermatology Physicians PC

### New HISP Participants and Connections:

MatrixCare  
 ASP.md (in work)  
 eClinicalWorks Plus (in work)  
 Care 360 (in work)



## Availability Trends

Mass HIway has maintained target availability for the last 4 months, continuing the trend of ongoing stability of services.

## New On-Demand Resources

Visit the [Mass HIway Events page](#) for a library of on-demand webinars and slides. New additions include:

- **Mass HIway Provider Directory Overview** [PDF](#) slides and [Video](#).
- **Mass HIway LAND Selection, Set Up and Use** [PDF](#) slides and Video (available for download).

For a current event listing, visit the Massachusetts eHealth Institute's [calendar](#).

## In the News

- Baker appoints new executive director of state healthcare analytics agency. [Biz Journals](#).
- Precision Medicine Revolution. [US News & World Report](#)
- Digital Health Lab Looks to Tap Into Growing Industry. [Boston Herald](#).
- Massachusetts avoids hospital pricing ballot measure after officials reach compromise with union. [Healthcare Finance](#).
- Athenahealth seeks to 'unbreak' healthcare with the help of humor. [MedCity News](#).

- Healthcare Leaders Look to Make True Interoperability More than Just a Dream. [Healthcare Informatics](#).
- HIMSS Weighs in on MACRA Interoperability Measures Debate. [HealthIT Analytics](#)
- Patient-Centered Interoperability Necessary for MACRA Success. [Health IT Interoperability](#).
- HIEs pilot 'patient-centered data home'. [HealthcareDive](#)
- Secure eMail Key in New DirectTrust Patients Program. [HealthIT Security](#).
- Healthcare groups weigh in on ONC interoperability measures. [HealthcareDive](#)
- Why HIE Data Analytics are Critical for Behavioral Healthcare. [HealthIT Analytics](#).

The Mass HIway | 1.855.624.4929 | [masshiway@state.ma.us](mailto:masshiway@state.ma.us) | [www.masshiway.net](http://www.masshiway.net)

Mass HIway, 100 Hancock Street, Mail Stop 4088, Quincy, MA 02171

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [masshiway@state.ma.us](mailto:masshiway@state.ma.us) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try it free today