



Mass HIway Newsletter

March 2020

For more information, visit www.masshiway.net
Refer a colleague to sign up for the newsletter [here](#)

HIway Operations during COVID-19

On March 10, Governor Charlie Baker [declared a state of emergency](#), giving the Administration more flexibility to respond to the outbreak. EOHHS would like to reassure the community that during this time, the HIway will continue to operate the Direct Messaging System and the HIway will continue its 24/7 monitoring. Please contact MassHIway@state.ma.us if you have any problems or questions.

The Administration will continue to update the public on further developments and individuals are encouraged to consult both the [Department of Public Health](#) and the US [Centers for Disease Control](#) and Prevention websites for the most up to date information.

The latest information and guidance regarding COVID-19 is always available at mass.gov/COVID19.

ENS Update

On February 28, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) issued an Administrative Bulletin ([AB 20-05](#)) extending the date by which all Acute Care Hospitals are required to submit Admission, Discharge, and Transfer (ADT) data to a Certified Event Notification Service (ENS) Vendor. The bulletin also moved back by six months, the date when penalties for noncompliance with this submission requirement may commence (per 101 CMR 20.08(4)(b) and (d)).

The effective date for implementing the requirements under 101 CMR 20.08(4)(b) has been extended from January 1, 2020 to July 1, 2020. **The new date for required ADT submission under 101 CMR 20.08(4)(b) is July 1, 2020.**

The effective date for implementing the requirements under 101 CMR 20.08(4)(d) has been extended from July 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021. **The new date for Acute Care Hospitals becoming subject to penalties under 101 CMR 20.08(4)(d) for ADT submission non-compliance is January 1, 2021.**

EOHHS issued this extension to provide Acute Care Hospitals additional time to engage with a Certified ENS Vendor for contracting and connecting purposes. EOHHS will distribute the list of Certified ENS Vendors to this email list once finalized.

Provider Directory (PD 2.0) Update

Last year, the Mass Hlway migrated its clients to an enhanced version of the Massachusetts Health Information Exchange, known as Hlway 2.0. The new platform aligns with the latest interoperability standards.

Hlway 2.0 comes with a more advanced Provider Directory (PD 2.0), which makes it easier to look up providers with whom healthcare providers and organizations may need to share health information. PD 2.0 is composed of Hlway Direct addresses submitted by provider organizations. Thus, it is critical that all providers in organizations with a Hlway Direct address submit to PD 2.0.

In order to improve PD 2.0's accuracy of Mass Hlway Direct addresses for organizations, including providers, we request that you fill in our redesigned Excel upload template. You can find the template and template instructions on the [Hlway Provider Directory 2.0](#) web page under the "Download" section.

Please **submit your completed template no later than April 24th, 2020**. Email the completed template to MassHlway@state.ma.us with subject line "Provider Directory." Please review the new Provider Directory specifications to ensure all required information is provided by your organization, so it can be included in the next PD 2.0 update.

We appreciate your assistance ensuring that PD 2.0 is accurate and robust; this will enable the Commonwealth's continued move towards the secure electronic exchange of health information. We look forward to receiving your completed template by April 24th, 2020.

[Learn More About PD 2.0](#)

If you have questions regarding this process, or the template, please contact your Hlway Account Manager or send an email to MassHlway@state.ma.us. You can also call **1-855-MA-Hlway** and press 1 to be put you in touch with your Account Manager.

Upcoming webinar

The Mass Hlway will host a "Provider Directory Update" webinar to discuss how you can gain access to this valuable resource and ensure your information is listed accurately.

Tuesday, April 28, 2020
12–1 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

HIT Council Meeting

The winter meeting of the Health Information Technology (HIT) Council was held on February 3, 2020. The HIT Council approved the 2019 Annual Report highlighting key accomplishments such as completing the Hlway 2.0 migration project, changing the Hlway regulations to promote health information exchange, and beginning the development process of a Statewide Event Notification (ENS) Framework. The HIT Council also discussed development of a Hlway strategic plan, followed up a prior conversation on the 2020 Hlway Connection Requirements, and received an update on the Market-based ENS Initiative.

EOHHS is currently in the process of reviewing all applications submitted by ENS vendors.

The next HIT Council meeting is scheduled take place on May 4, 2020.

[View the February 3, 2020 HIT Council meeting presentation](#)

Connection Requirements 2020

For 2020, the [Mass Hlway Regulations](#) (101 CMR 20.00) require all Acute Care Hospitals, Community Health Centers, and Medium and Large Medical Ambulatory Practices to connect to and use the Mass Hlway. These organizations were required to meet the requirement by December 31, 2019 and **must submit an attestation this coming summer 2020**. If a Provider Organization cannot meet the specified requirement, it must submit an HIE Exception Form.

- **Acute Care Hospitals** are in **Year 4** and must send AND receive information over the Mass Hlway as part of provider-to-provider communication use cases. These organizations are subject to penalties if they do not attest this summer to meeting the Year 4 requirement.
- **Large Community Health Centers and Medium/Large Medical Ambulatory Practices** are in **Year 3** and must send AND receive information over the Mass Hlway as part of provider-to-provider communication use cases.
- **Small Community Health Centers** are in **Year 2** and must send OR receive information over the Mass Hlway as part of a provider-to-provider communication use case.

Upcoming webinar

During this webinar, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the Hlway Connection Requirement and how to submit their attestation forms online.

Tuesday, April 14, 2020
12-1 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

Additional resources:

[Webinar: Connection Requirements and Attestation Forms](#)

[Webinar Slides \(PDF\)](#)

[Webinar: Improving Care Coordination by Using Mass Hlway Direct Messaging](#)

[Webinar Slides \(PDF\)](#)

For more information:

[Hlway Connections Map](#)

[HIE Toolkit](#)

[Hlway Adoption and Utilization Support \(HAUS\) Services](#)



[HIE, EHR](#) interoperability ascending in acute care hospitals

Healthcare IT News

[ONC officials](#) describe requirements of new API, information blocking rules



[A customized EHR](#) search interface can aid clinician burnout



[ONC addresses](#) Health IT infrastructure challenges in new agenda



[FHIR-based](#) APIs Health Gorilla becomes largest CommonWell connector



[CMS' new interoperability](#) rule requires major changes for payers and hospitals. Here are 6 key elements

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