



ALASKA NATIVE
MEDICAL CENTER



Dear ANMC patient/customer-owner,

The Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) is now participating in the statewide Alaska Health Information Exchange (HIE), managed by the Alaska eHealth Network (AeHN). The HIE will promote patient safety, accessibility of information and continuity of care for all participating patients. ANMC continues to improve our customers' experience and we are pleased to offer this new service for our customer-owners.

When you have an encounter with a participating provider, information about your visit is transmitted securely to the Alaska HIE and is visible only to providers that have a relationship with you. For example, if you see your primary care provider at your local facility and you are referred to ANMC for further treatment, your ANMC providers will have access to important health information such as your medications, allergies and a clinical care summary provided by your primary care provider. After treatment at ANMC, your primary care provider will be able to see the health information documented by your ANMC providers, including discharge notes and instructions. Each of your participating caregivers will have the benefit of having your most recent health care information available when they see you.

Although no electronic health system is completely risk-free, ANMC has thoroughly evaluated the security, access controls and permissions of the Alaska HIE and have confidence that it is secure. Alaska law limits access to your information in the HIE for the purposes of treatment and billing. Only authorized individuals may access your health information in the Alaska HIE.

If you have questions or concerns about the Alaska HIE, contact the AeHN at (907) 770-2626 or www.ak-ehealth.org. For questions or assistance with HIE participation options, contact ANMC registration or check-in staff.

Regards,

Roald Helgesen
Alaska Native Medical Center Hospital Administrator

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www.anmc.org



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Health Information Exchange Participation Options

Participation in the Alaska HIE is voluntary. The choice you make will not affect your ability to access health services. If you believe the risks of participating in the Alaska HIE outweigh the benefits, you may choose to opt out or not participate. However, when you opt out, your medical information from this system will not be available to help participating physicians manage your care, even in an emergency. Your choice is personal and will only be shared with your provider.

- **Participant:** You do not need to do anything to be an HIE participant. When you have an encounter with a participating provider, information about your visit travels securely to the Alaska HIE and is visible only to providers that have a relationship with you.
- **Full Opt-Out:** When you opt out, all of your health information will be removed from the system and only enough demographic information will be kept to make sure that no health information about you is added to the system. This means that if you choose to opt in at a future date, there will be no access to past information. In an emergency, a provider will not be able to access any part of your medical record.
- **Partial Opt-Out:** If you are unsure if you wish to participate, you can choose the partial opt-out. Your health information will be stored in an encrypted file and will only be accessed in an emergency, such as an ER visit. The emergency doctor will be given a decryption key to view your data and will be required to answer a question about why the record is being accessed.

For questions or assistance with HIE participation options, contact ANMC staff or your Primary Care Team.

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