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HIE Networks and Florida Podiatric Medical Association to Collaborate on Local, Provider-Driven Health Information Exchange

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – A new statewide health information exchange network is expected to serve more Florida healthcare consumers thanks to a collaboration with the state’s leading organization representing podiatric physicians.

Leaders from HIE Networks and the Florida Podiatric Medical Association (FPMA) have announced their collaboration for local, provider-driven health information exchange through the Florida Health Data Network (FHDN). The FHDN was created by HIE Networks and launched in December, with a goal of making patient medical records easily accessible to authorized healthcare providers. Designed as a secure, cloud-based, statewide health information exchange network, FHDN has been exclusively endorsed by the Florida Medical Association (FMA) and currently hosts secure records for nearly one million unique Florida patients.

In addition to supporting local, provider-driven health information exchanges, HIE Networks and FPMA support the utilization of telemedicine and other technology to increase access to care, oppose state-mandated participation in statewide health information exchange, and oppose mandates for healthcare providers to fund statewide health information exchange.

“We are pleased to collaborate with HIE Networks on behalf of supporting local, provider-driven health information exchange,” said Mike Schwartz, executive director of FPMA. “Providers are at a major crossroad as their practices transition from paper-based medical records to electronic medical records and the electronic exchange of medical records. The leadership at FPMA supports HIE Networks’ provider-driven efforts to build local health information exchange infrastructure without a mandate from the state.”

“Collaboration with the Florida Podiatric Medical Association gives further credence to our vision of keeping health information exchanges local and provider-driven,” said Dan Kaelin, M.D., co-founder and chief medical officer of HIE Networks. “The Florida Health Data Network is cost-effective and will help providers communicate within their community and also unite under the HIE Networks technology platform allowing them to communicate across the entire state.”

For more information about the Florida Health Data Network and HIE Networks, go to www.HIEnetworks.com, call (850) 702-0365 or email HIE@HIEnetworks.com. For more information about the Florida Podiatric Medical Association, visit www.FPMA.com.

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About HIE Networks, LLC

HIE Networks is a leading provider of local health information exchange (HIE) services, with secure, standards-based exchanges that create and operate efficient, effective and sustainable health information networks at the local and regional levels. By acting as a region's single reference point for patient records, HIE Networks allows hospitals, physicians and medical practices, laboratories, pharmacies and insurers to collaborate and streamline patient care, thereby improving the safety, outcomes, privacy and efficiency of healthcare services in their local communities. The HIE Networks service mix includes practice consultation, social architecture, legal structure, hardware support, software implementation, networking, integration, training and support.

About the Florida Podiatric Medical Association

The Florida Podiatric Medical Association (FPMA) was organized in 1927 for the purpose of advancing the science and art of podiatric medicine, promoting the benefits of scientific advancement in the treatment, prevention and alleviation of podiatric ailments, and enhancing relationships within the podiatric medical profession and other groups dedicated to improve healthcare. FPMA currently unites more than 900 podiatric physicians in this common cause and serves as the voice for the profession in Florida and Washington, D.C. through delegates to the [American Podiatric Medical Association \(APMA\)](#).

FPMA is dedicated to programs and activities that enhance the success of the podiatric practitioner. The association functions on two levels: 1) it offers services and programs dedicated to improving the professional competence of the individual podiatric physician and 2) it provides information about how podiatric medicine benefits the health and well-being of the general public. On both levels, FPMA fulfills responsibilities in five major categories: education, legislative and insurance representation, membership services, information coordination, and public affairs. Through a network of volunteer efforts by its members, FPMA brings together knowledge and ideas as broad and diversified as its combined membership.