

Connecticut Statewide Health Information Technology Plan

2021



**CEDARBRIDGE
GROUP**

Connecting and Innovating for Better Health

Prioritizing and Governing Investments:

Secure, Person-Centered HealthIT for Residents of Connecticut

March 26, 2021

CedarBridge Group Facilitators



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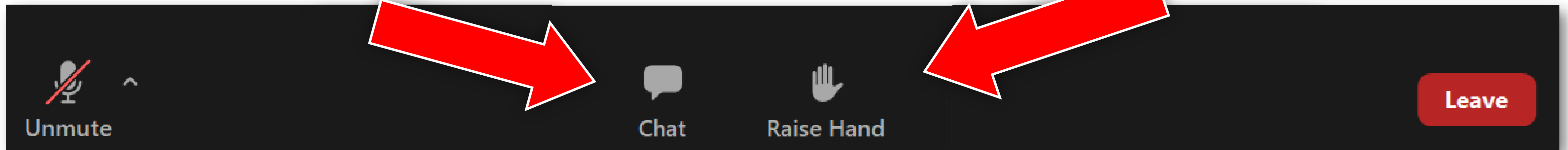


Participating in the Virtual Forum

Use the **Chat** to engage with all participants*

To respond verbally use the **Raise Hand** option, and we will unmute you

*Please select "All panelists and attendees"



Opportunities to participate in several polls throughout the forum

Communication with your peers in the chat is highly encouraged

"Stack" in the chat box using "+++" when you agree with someone's point

Quick Poll #1



A Message from the Office of Health Strategy Executive Director

VICKI VELTRI, JD, LL.M. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Victoria Veltri, JD, LL.M., is the Executive Director of the Office of Health Strategy, appointed to serve as the first head of this agency in February 2018. She was reappointed by Governor Ned Lamont in 2019 to oversee the office's mission to implement comprehensive, data driven strategies that promote equal access to high quality health care, control costs and ensure better health for the people of Connecticut.



“Connecting and Innovating for Better Health” Virtual Forum Series

February – March 2021



6 interactive forums in February and March to inform the State HealthIT Plan

Hosted by the Office of Health Strategy and CedarBridge Group

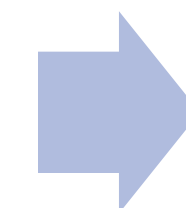
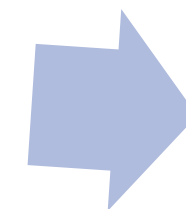


Input will help identify priorities for health information services in Connecticut



Prioritizing and Governing Investments:

Secure, Person-Centered HealthIT for Residents of Connecticut



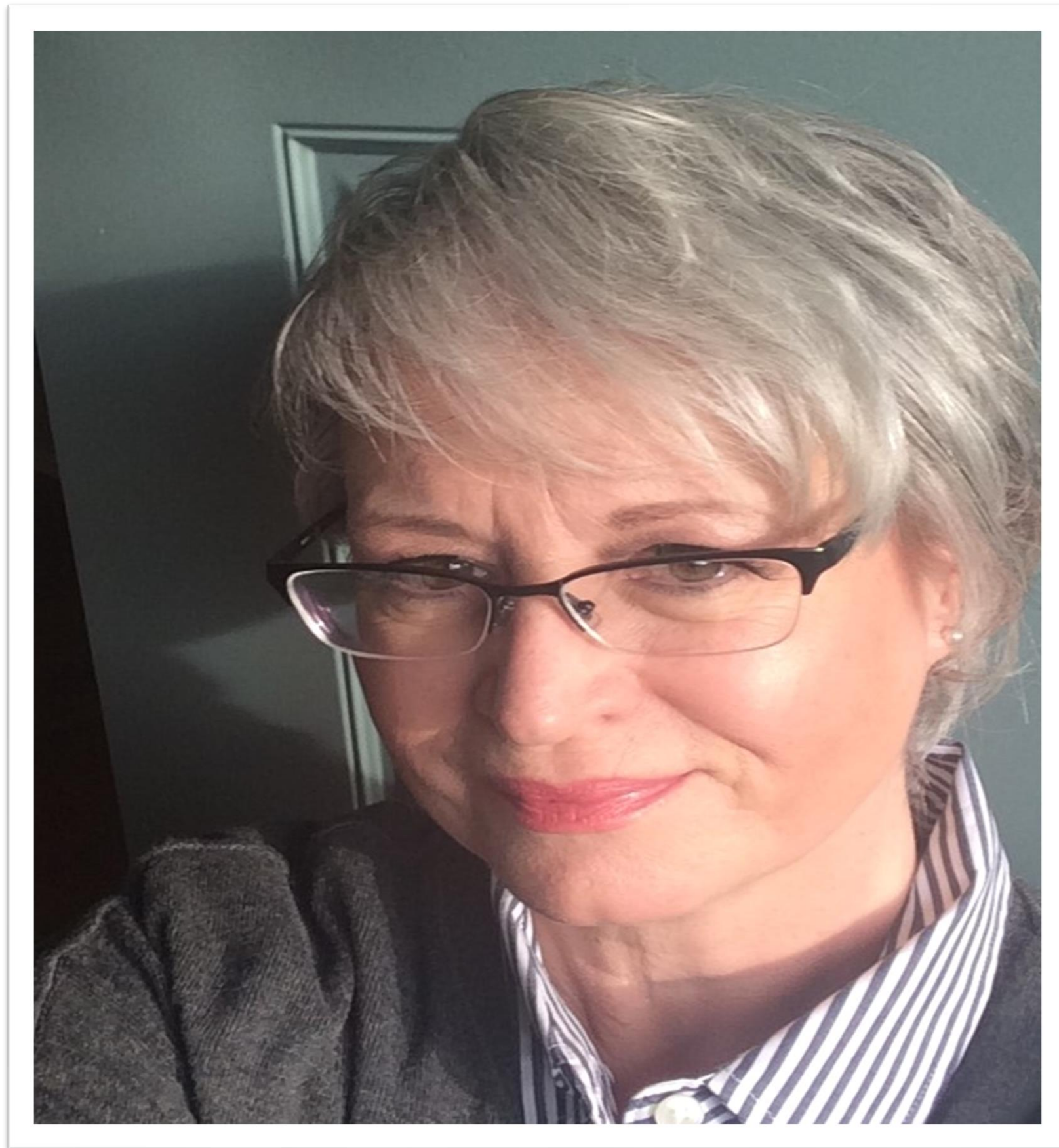
Current
Context

Current
State

Future
Priorities

Next
Steps

Five-Year Statewide HealthIT Plan Strategies



Brenda Shipley
HealthIT Senior Program Manager
Office of Health Strategy

About Connecticut Office of Health Strategy (OHS)

Fully established in 2018 by
Connecticut General Statute § 19a-754a

- Charge:

- ✓ Developing and implementing a comprehensive and cohesive health care vision for Connecticut
- ✓ Promoting effective health care planning and quality of care for the state
- ✓ Coordinating state's health information technology initiatives
- ✓ Overseeing multi-payer care delivery and payment reforms



Connecticut General Statute § 17b-59a(3)(c) Requires a Statewide HealthIT Plan

“The executive director of the Office of Health Strategy shall, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services and the State Health Information Technology Advisory Council... implement and periodically revise the state-wide health information technology plan... and shall establish electronic data standards to facilitate the development of integrated electronic health information systems for use by health care providers and institutions that receive state funding.”

Principles for Developing the Five-Year Statewide HealthIT Plan

Align

- Business strategies
- Priorities



Leverage Existing Investments

- Identify and add value to local efforts
- Maximize benefit from existing tools



Shared Goal:
Data Availability, Accuracy, and Interoperability

Validate Input

- Share draft recommendations
- Solicit public engagement



Inclusivity

- Create spaces for broad feedback
- Conduct comprehensive environmental scan



High Level Timeline for HealthIT Plan Development

Q1 2021

- Review historical documents
- Host virtual stakeholder forums
- Conduct electronic surveys
- Key informants interviews

Q2 2021

- Synthesize input
- Incorporate HITAC guidance
- Draft findings and recommendations
- Present to HITAC

Q3 2021

- Stakeholder feedback
- Validate stakeholder input
- Revise recommendations

Q4 2021

- Draft State HealthIT Plan
- Finalize for HITAC/ OHS approval

Information Needs for Whole Person, Coordinated Care

- Providers
- Payers
- Hospitals,
- Pharmacies & Labs
- Public Health & Social Service programs
- Behavioral health services
- Oral health providers
- Physical therapists
- Others.

There is an imperative in Connecticut and across the country for more coordinated healthcare delivery with greater transparency of cost and quality.

Transforming healthcare delivery to “whole person, coordinated care” will require a critical mass of data be available for care teams across health and social service organizations with notifications, analytics, digital health tools, and timely clinical information

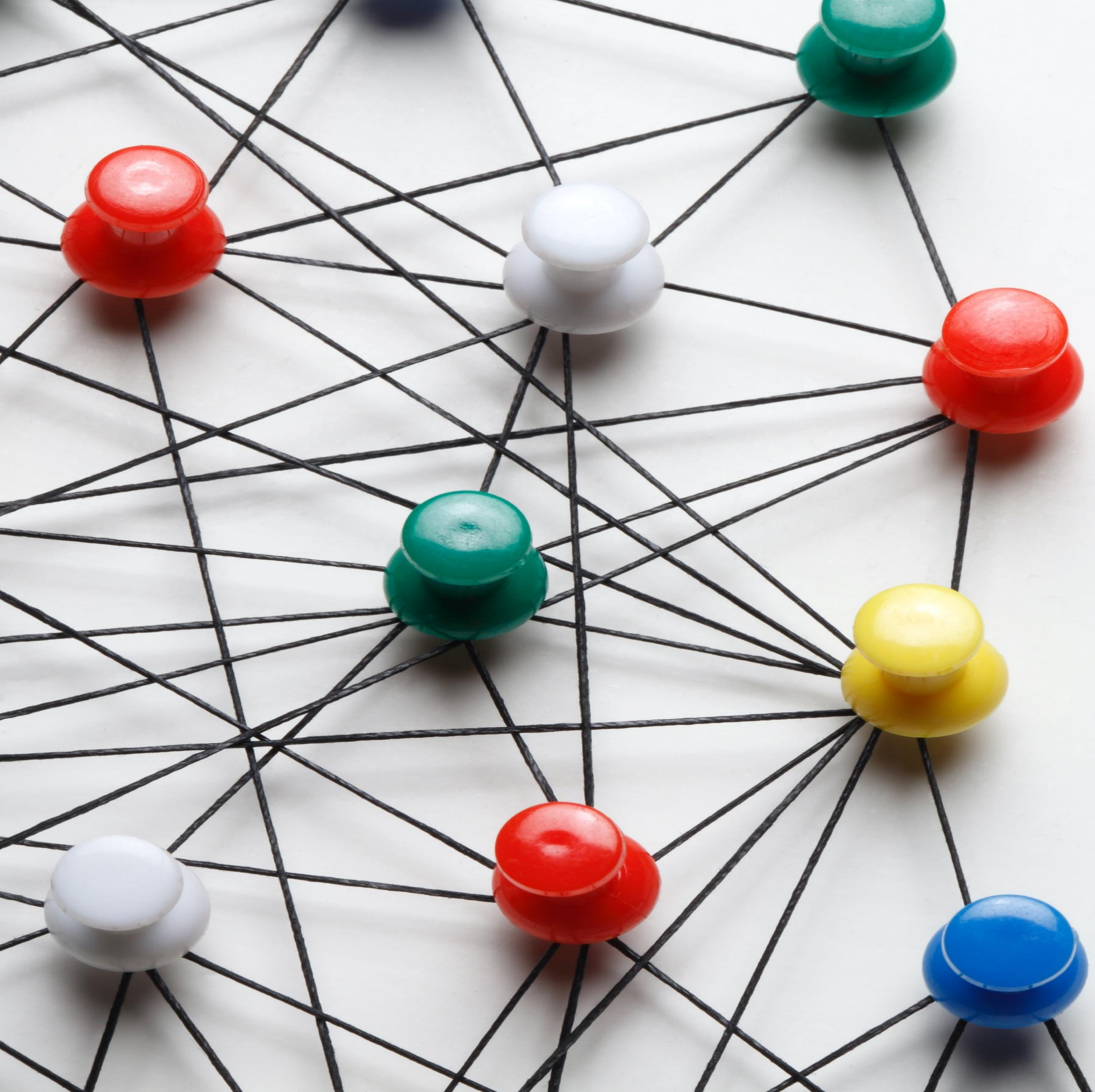
Context on the Current State of Health Information Exchange (HIE)



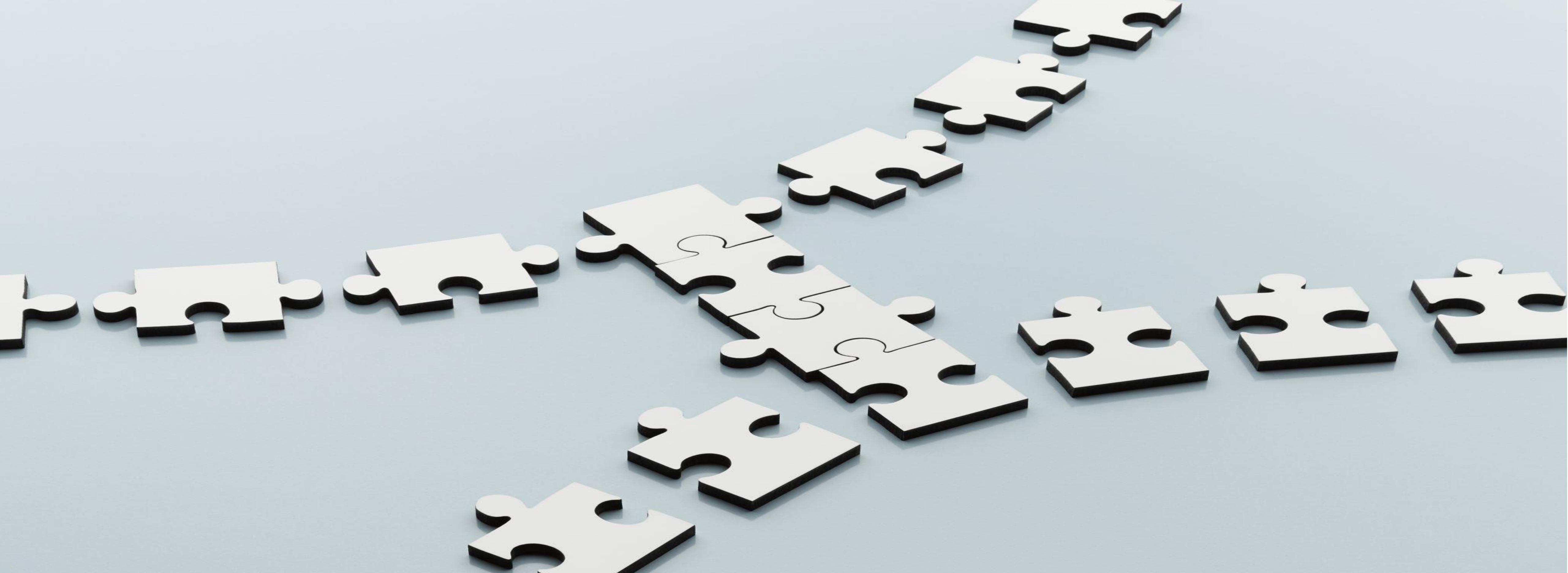
Most HIE organizations have been set up as not-for-profit, board governed organizations; some are public/private partnerships; a few are housed within a state agency.

Significant funding for HIEs, including 90% of the costs to stand up Connie, Connecticut's statewide HIE has come through the federal HITECH program, managed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

As the value of health data exchange accrues across populations over time, the concept of a public utility model to provide oversight and accountability of publicly-funded health IT assets is gaining traction. We would like to explore that and other questions in more depth with you today.



QUICK POLL #2



Quick Poll #3 and Discussion

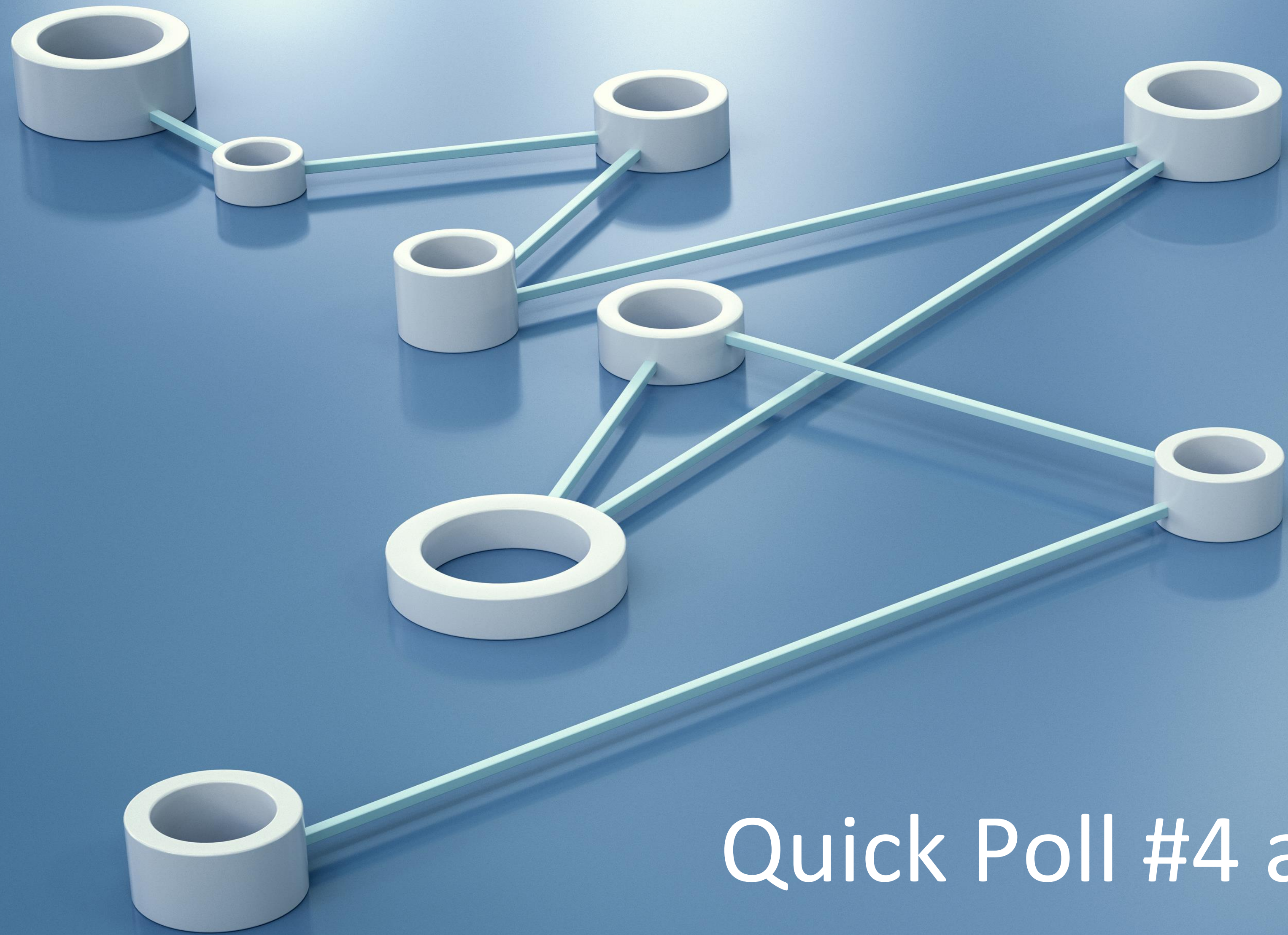


Connie is Connecticut's Statewide HIE

Connie is actively onboarding provider organizations, hospital systems, and data services organizations

Yale New Haven Health
Hartford Healthcare
Soho Health
Candlewood Valley Pediatrics
Capitol Region Mental Health Center
Connecticut Mental Health Center
River Valley Services
Southeastern Mental Health Authority
Southwest CT Mental Health System
Western CT Mental Health Network
Litchfield County Pediatrics
Pediatric Care Center
Pediatric Partners
Pioneer Valley Pediatrics
Rocky Hill Pediatrics
United Services
Wellmore Behavioral Health

Community Medical Group
Beacon Health Options
Community Health Network of Connecticut
ProHealth Physicians
CT HealthLink
Signify Health
Community Healthcare Associations of Connecticut
First Choice Health Center
Southwest Community Health Ctr
Wheeler Clinic
Advanced Behavioral Health
BHCare
Bridges Healthcare
Community Health Resources
Community Mental Health Affiliates
Sound Community Services



Quick Poll #4 and Discussion

Facilitated Blue Sky Discussion

Help ensure success of Connie HIE services-- Let's brainstorm!



1. Enlist leaders as champions
2. Develop partnerships
3. Identify funding sources
4. Propose regulatory levers
5. Provide payment incentives
6. Propose new use cases
7. Evaluate supportive governance needs
8. Volunteer for a workgroup
9. Ask your healthcare providers to join
10. Speak to your legislator about the value

Poll #5: In addition to the priorities already discussed in this forum, the following list includes additional options for inclusion in Connecticut's 5-Year Statewide HealthIT Plan

In the chat box, please list your top three numbers priority choices of options to prioritize in the 5-Year Plan, in the order of importance to you and/or your organization.

Options

- 1) Begin developing identity management services (statewide master healthcare organization/provider directory, statewide master person index, attribution services between the two) to reduce out-of-network surprise billing, improve patient matching, support quality reporting, and more
- 2) Develop electronic registries for managing individual preferences and delegation of access to advance care preferences (advance directives, medical power of attorney, Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatments [MOLST], organ donor, etc.).
- 3) Improve information availability between state health & human services agency systems for streamlined eligibility & coordination of care and social services, including with Dept. of Children & Families, Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction Services, Dept. of Social Services, Dept. of Developmental Disabilities; Dept. of Public Health, others.
- 4) Develop analytic capabilities for measuring quality and costs of healthcare and improving health outcomes across communities, regions, age groups, trends in chronic disease and comorbidities, environmental health impacts, immunization rates; birth and death rates, other
- 5) Upgrade legacy systems in state health and human service agencies to ease struggles for data reporting by Local Public Health Authorities, and Local Mental Health Agencies, field office staff of HHS agencies in Connecticut, rural hospitals, home healthcare providers, others
- 6) Develop medication services, providing access to more complete medication histories for patients/clients (Best Possible Medication History)
- 7) Coordinate development of a Statewide Community Information Exchange (e.g., 211 Directory with care coordination services among social service and healthcare organizations for "whole person coordinated care")

8) Investments in expanding and improving broadband access and speed for better connectivity in all settings

For questions or feedback, please email:
cthealthitplan@cedarbridgegroup.com

For more information, visit the OHS website:
[http://bit.ly/ct hit plan](http://bit.ly/ct_hit_plan)

Thank you!