

Joan Cavanagh
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New Haven CT 06511

Allan Hackney, HITO

March 14, 2020

Dear Mr. Hackney,

I am concerned about the Health Information Exchange to be implemented by the Office of Health Strategy in Connecticut. Such a system must include a policy enabling individual patient consent regarding what parts of our personal medical data may be shared, and with whom. We must be able to see any data that is being provided. Through widespread and accessible public education, patients need to be fully informed about both the risks and the benefits involved in permitting the sharing of any information. In addition, there must be an explicit, legally binding commitment that medical data will never be shared with insurance companies or other insurance providers. Without these guarantees, there is great danger of health care rationing and discrimination against certain patients for a myriad of reasons.

Two of the most serious public health issues today are a growing lack of confidence in the health care system and its lack of accessibility to the most vulnerable among us. Please insure that any new measures are designed to improve, not exacerbate, these problems.

Yours truly,

Joan Cavanagh

*Joan Cavanagh, PhD
Archivist and Historical Researcher*

