



How Virginia's HIT Regional Extension Center Can Help You

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ARRA and HITECH

The **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**, a \$787 Billion dollar stimulus package, was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009.

This bill includes **The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act**, a \$19.2 Billion dollar outsource, dedicated to promoting the adoption of Electronic Health Records through the offering of Medicare and Medicaid Incentives to physicians demonstrating Meaningful Use.



Who is VHIT?

- Team of experienced local health IT professionals with clinical background, in-depth knowledge of Virginia's PCPs
- Part of a national network of select organizations designated to help providers modernize their practices with certified EHRs
- Direct, rapid and reliable access to a pipeline of key information on health IT and EHR meaningful use
- **We help health care providers meet the criteria for incentive payments from Medicare or Medicaid for EHR meaningful use**



Serving the Commonwealth

Assist Priority Primary Care Providers (PPCPs) throughout Virginia, including:

- Internists, family practitioners, pediatricians, OB/GYNs, PAs and NPs
- Outpatient clinics associated with Critical Access Hospitals
- Community Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics
- Health system employed physicians
- Other care settings treating uninsured, underinsured or disadvantaged populations



Snapshot of EHR Benefits

For Providers:

- **Quick access to patient records for more coordinated, efficient care**
- **Enhanced decision support, clinical alerts, reminders, and current medical information**
- **Performance-improving tools, real time quality reporting**
- **Legible, complete documentation that facilitates accurate coding and billing**
- **Interfaces with labs, registries, other EHRs and HIEs**

For Patients:

- **Reliable point-of-care information and reminders notifying providers of important health interventions and/or screenings**
- **Convenience of e-prescriptions**
- **Patient portals for online interaction with providers**
- **Electronic referrals allow for easier access to follow-up care with specialists**
- **Perceived improved quality of care by patients when providers are using EHR**



EHRs May Enable Better Risk Management

- Clinical alerts and reminders enable better risk management
- Improved aggregation, analysis and communication of patient information
 - Consideration of all aspects of patient's condition
- Support for diagnostic decisions
 - Relevant information all in one place (e.g., lab results, etc.)
- Support for therapeutic decisions
 - Evidence-based decisions at point of care
- Prevent adverse events
 - Built-in safeguards against prescribing treatments that would result in adverse events
- Enhanced clinical quality improvement research and monitoring

Providing a Clear Path

Conduct needs assessment & practice workflow analysis

Help select, adopt & implement a certified electronic health record (EHR)

Provide technical assistance on attaining “meaningful use”

Improve the patient care process



What is VHIT's Added Value?

- Access to training, tools and information designed specifically for REC participants, plus best practices from other RECs
- Opportunity to participate in an EHR learning network with other Virginia PCPs
- Option to purchase discounted EHR systems from one of four carefully selected solution partners



Meaningful Use

Stage 1 MU criteria focuses on...

- Electronically capturing health information in a standardized format
- Using that information to track key clinical conditions
- Communicating that information for care coordination processes
- Initiating the reporting of clinical quality measures and public health information
- Using information to engage patients and their families in their care

Stage 1 Objectives for EPs

Core Set: Must Do All

- Use CPOE
- e-prescribing
- Drug-drug & drug allergy checks
- Medication list
- Allergy list
- Problem list
- Decision support
- Record demographics
- Smoking status
- Vital signs
- Clinical summaries to patient
- Electronic exchange
- Health info to patients
- Clinical quality measures
- Protect health information

Menu Set: Must Do 5 of 10

- Incorporate clinical labs
- Medication reconciliation
- Implement drug-formulary checks
- Generate patient list
- Patient electronic access
- Send reminder
- Patient-specific education
- Clinical summaries to provider
- Submit electronic data to immunization registry*
- Submit electronic syndromic surveillance data*

*At least 1 public health objective must be selected.

Guiding to Meaningful Change



“Meaningful use leads to meaningful change.”

EHR Incentive Programs enhance meaningful change.

Under Medicare: maximum of \$44,000/provider, over 5 years

Under Medicaid: maximum of \$63,750/provider, over 6 years;
\$21,250 within the first year



Medicare & Medicaid Incentives

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is making available up to \$27 billion in EHR incentive payments, or as much as \$44,000 (through Medicare) or \$63,750 (through Medicaid) per eligible professional.

Who is Eligible?

Medicare EPs

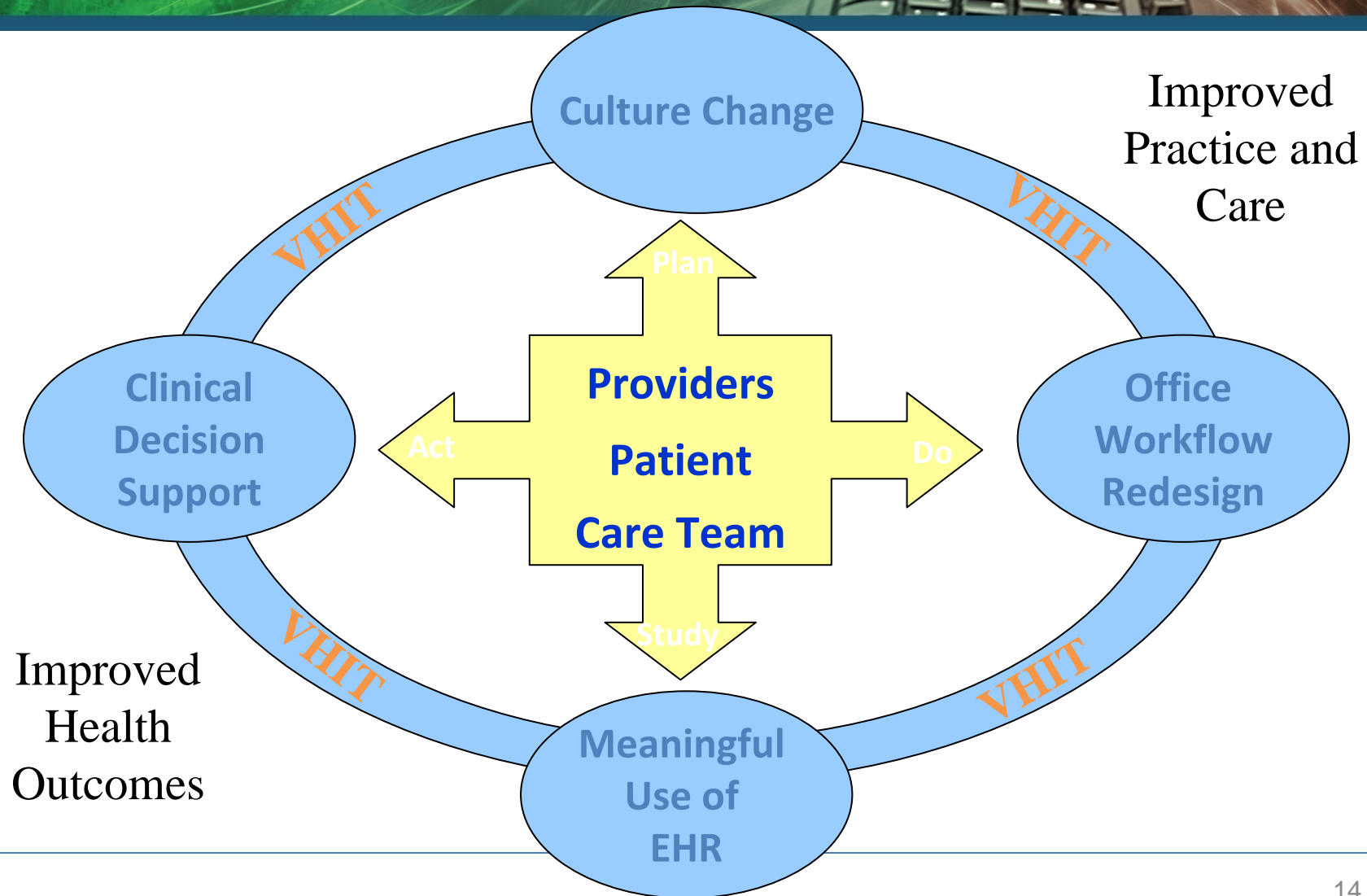
- Doctors of medicine or osteopathy
- Doctors of dental surgery or dental medicine
- Doctors of podiatric medicine
- Doctors of optometry
- Chiropractors

Medicaid EPs

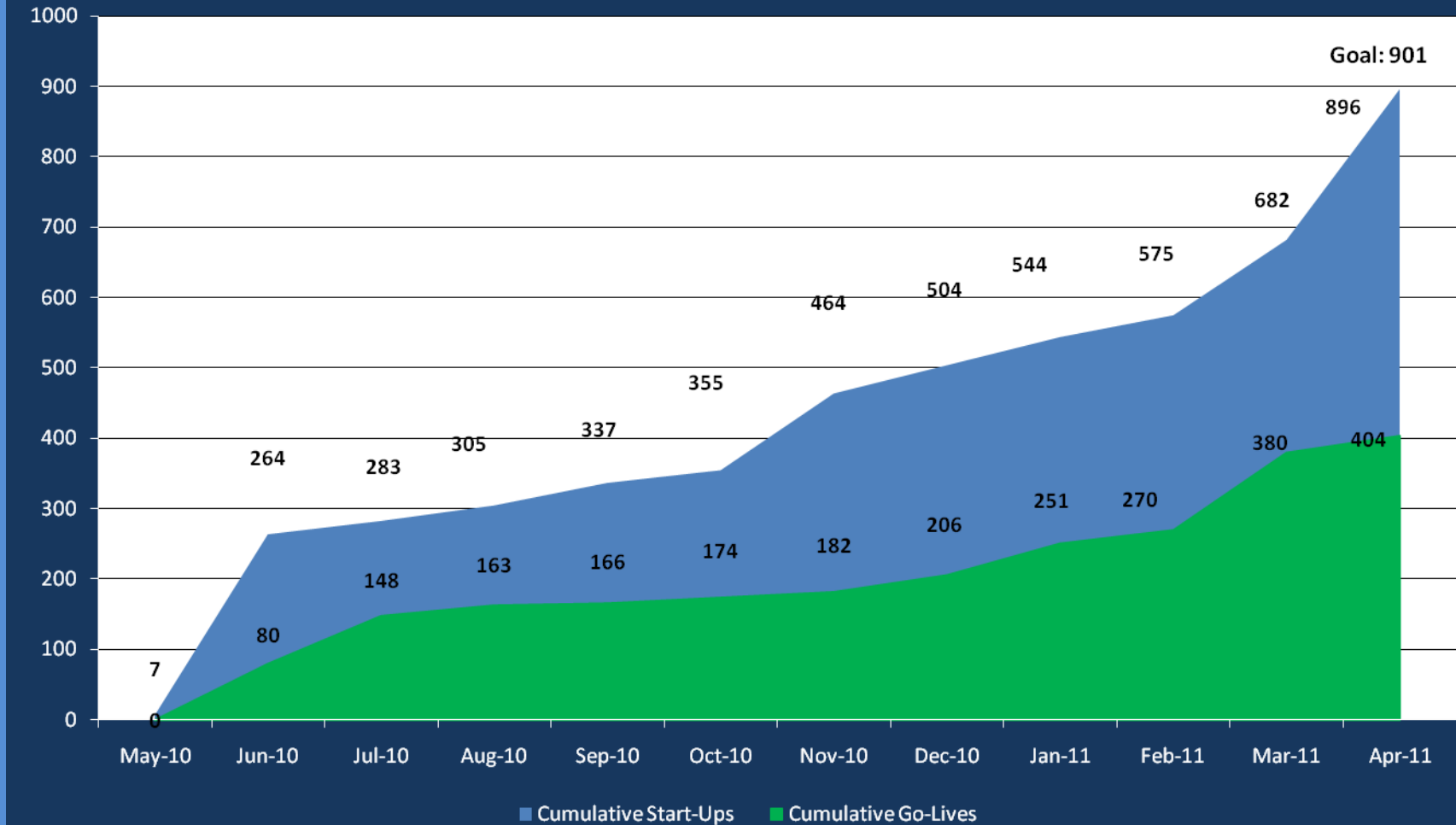
- Physicians
- Nurse practitioners
- Certified nurse-midwives
- Dentists
- Physician assistants (PAs) in PA-led Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or rural health clinic (RHC)

Source: http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/20_Eligibility.asp

Improving Care Delivery



Cumulative Sign-Ups and Go-Lives



VHIT Website: www.vhitrec.org

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An Easier Way to EHR Meaningful Use

Virginia primary care physicians now have the direct, local assistance they need to implement an electronic health record system, integrate it into the patient care process, and position themselves to receive Medicare or Medicaid incentive payments. The Virginia Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center is funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services to serve as Virginia's meaningful use expert.



EHR Solutions

Through a rigorous selection process, VHIT helps you choose the right EHR system for your practice.



EHR Consulting

Our professional consultants will assess your current EHR system and provide guidance on how to improve it.



Meaningful Use

EHR incentive payments are just one of the many benefits of meaningful use.

Latest News

- Virginia Health IT: Guiding Your Practice to EHR Meaningful Use
- Become a Meaningful User of Health IT
- VHIT Finalizes Agreements with Solution Partners
- CMS Update: Information for Eligible Professionals about Registration for the EHR Incentive Programs
- Register Today for the Medicare EHR Incentive



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