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– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

SHARE an Essential Component of Clinically Integrated Networks

Emerging Health Information Exchange (HIE) technology is opening up new avenues of securely exchanging private health data in Arkansas and across the country. Arkansas’s HIE is SHARE, the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange, which is operated by the Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT). Since 2011, SHARE has become a fully functioning HIE and is capable of enabling real-time electronic exchange of health information between different types of health care providers. A Clinically Integrated Network (CIN) is a term that describes the integration of healthcare delivery sites and clinical information.

Clinical integration permits the coordination of care across a continuum of services to improve the value of the care provided and includes preventive and outpatient care, post-acute care including skilled nursing, rehabilitation, long term care, behavioral health and home health services. Many healthcare hospitals and clinicians in Arkansas are preparing for the reality of a risk sharing environment where hospitals and clinician’s deliver higher quality and more efficient care in real-time in order to participate in cost savings. Hospitals in Arkansas are teaming up with SHARE to connect their referral sources including skilled nursing facilities, rehabilitation centers, long-term post-acute care facilities as well as behavioral health and home health agencies.*

As hospitals navigate the challenges of risk sharing, the use of SHARE can help connect facilities in their CIN. Using SHARE allows all facilities, even if they are connected to different EMR systems to send secure messages, use the web-based portal known as the Virtual Health Record (VHR) or fully integrate with the HIE.

By identifying referral partners, hospitals and clinics connected with SHARE benefit from:

- Assistance in meeting their goals for the Meaningful Use Transition of Care metric;
- Reduced readmissions by providing proactive, patient centered post-discharge care;
- Connectivity with affiliated or non-owned referral practices.

CIN’s provide the opportunity to increase quality, reduce cost and position providers to be empowered to effectively manage utilization and the health of Arkansas populations in the future. SHARE demonstrates a value to the CIN by establishing mechanisms to hospitals and clinicians to monitor and control utilization of healthcare services that are designed to ensure quality of care. Establishing a network of providers throughout Arkansas enables enhanced coordination of care that provides a much needed platform to support care redesign and performance improvement initiatives.

Coordination and Collaboration Use Case: Rehabilitative Services for Persons with Mental Illness (RSPMI) and Inpatient Psychiatric Providers participated in a questionnaire developed by Beacon Health Options that gathered information on best practices and barriers to follow up care post hospitalization for adult psychiatric care. Based on the results of these questionnaires, Beacon developed a [White Paper, titled *Perspectives on Acute Hospitalization Aftercare: Questionnaire Responses from Arkansas’ Behavioral Health Providers*](#). The results of this study identified communication across levels of care as one barrier to follow up treatment.

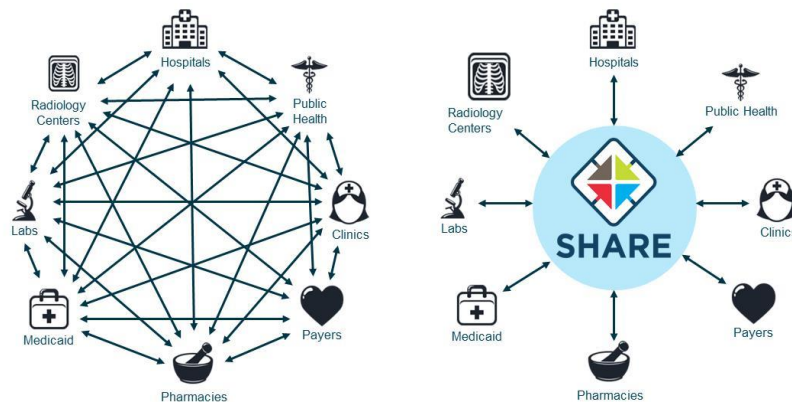
Beacon Health Options has developed a partnership with the Arkansas Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) to assist providers in using secured messaging through State Health Alliance for Records Exchange (SHARE; the State Health Information Exchange) that can improve communication regarding beneficiaries as they transition from one provider to another, discharge from inpatient care or for providers coordinating outpatient services.

Whether hospitals and clinicians need to focus on quality improvement, strengthened physician relationships, increased market share or improved risk sharing strategies, SHARE offers the technology and processes to enhance the hospital CIN. With 35 hospitals and over 400 provider practices across the state currently using SHARE to make critical health information accessible when and where needed in a HIPAA-compliant environment, connection to SHARE will bring more value to your hospital than ever before.

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About SHARE

The Arkansas State Health Alliance for Records Exchange (SHARE) has over 35 hospitals and 400 practices connected. SHARE is a secure, electronic system that allows health care providers, health services professionals and public health authorities in Arkansas to exchange accurate patient medical information in real-time. Organizations that participate in SHARE serve more than 1.6 million patients in Arkansas. For more information, visit www.SHAREArkansas.com.



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