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Final State Budget Funds New York's Electronic Health Records System

***NEW FUNDING WILL EMPOWER MILLIONS OF NY DOCTORS AND PATIENTS TO
TAKE FULL CHARGE OF THEIR HEALTH BY PROVIDING THEM WITH FAST AND
EASY ACCESS TO THEIR RECORDS ANYWHERE IN THE STATE***

New York, NY – Today, the New York State Legislature voted to support New York's electronic health records system – known as the Statewide Health Information Network of New York (the SHIN-NY). The final New York State Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget includes \$55M in State funding for the SHIN-NY, which will go towards building an innovative, public network in New York designed to give doctors and patients instant access to their complete health records, anywhere and anytime. New York has been at the forefront of health innovation and will now be the first large state in the country to build a public network of interconnected electronic health records of this kind.

“We are thankful that Governor Cuomo, Senator Kemp Hannon, Assemblyman Dick Gottfried, the New York State Assembly led by Speaker Silver, and the Senate led by co-Leaders Skelos and Klein, have authorized critical funds in the final budget for building New York's electronic health record system,” said **Dave Whitlinger, Executive Director of the New York eHealth Collaborative, which coordinates activities for the SHIN-NY.** “The SHIN-NY already provides thousands of healthcare providers with access to millions of patient records daily and we are starting to see game changing shifts in efficiency, cost and quality of care through its usage. Now is the time for us to get every aspect of the healthcare system, including the patient engaged.

“The New York eHealth Collaborative and the 10 Regional Health Information Organizations across New York look forward to working closely with the State to assure that this life-saving investment serves the hundreds of hospitals, thousands of healthcare providers and millions of people receiving health care in New York.”

Nirav R. Shah, MD, MPH, the state Commissioner of Health, called the SHIN-NY a major initiative toward the transformation of New York's health care delivery system. “Thanks to Governor Andrew Cuomo, the citizens of New York are the real winners today with the funding of the SHIN-NY,” Shah said. “We are giving them

back the health data that is rightfully theirs. Ultimately, having that data will enable them to make the health care decisions that will lead to better health.”

The majority of the funding for the SHIN-NY in the budget will go towards interconnecting the SHIN-NY’s ten regional health information organizations (RHIOs) - hubs of electronic health records scattered throughout the state – and increasing doctor and patient participation in the network.

In addition to transforming patient care in New York, implementation of the SHIN-NY will also promote economic development, lower state healthcare costs and enhance overall public health.

About The New York eHealth Collaborative (NYeC): NYeC is a not-for-profit organization, working in partnership with the New York State Department of Health to improve healthcare for all New Yorkers through health information technology (health IT). Founded in 2006 by healthcare leaders, NYeC receives funding from state and federal grants to serve as the focal point for health IT in the State of New York. NYeC works to develop policies and standards, to assist healthcare providers in making the shift to electronic health records, and to coordinate the creation of the [Statewide Health Information Network of New York](#) (SHIN-NY), a network to connect healthcare providers statewide. www.nyehealth.org & @NYeHealth.