



# Medicare PHR Choice Pilot

*Western States Health-e Connection Summit*

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# Medicare PHR Choice

- New pilot program for 2009 in Arizona and Utah
- Medicare is partnering with four private PHR companies to encourage PHR use – designed to give people choice of tools
- Medicare will auto-populate up to 2 years of Part A & Part B claims into a PHR and continue to add new claims as they are available in 2009
- Medicare can not access any information in an individual's PHR
- Individuals keep claims data and PHR after pilot is over



# Who Can Participate in Medicare PHR Choice

- Only people with Original Medicare with a primary residence in Arizona or Utah can participate in the pilot
- Remember, the pilot is to import Medicare Part A & Part B claims into their PHR
- Individuals need to select one of the participating companies in the Medicare PHR Choice program and request to have their claims automatically added to their PHR



# Medicare PHR Choice

- Pilot: January 13–December 31, 2009
- Go to [www.medicare.gov/phr-Homepage](http://www.medicare.gov/phr-Homepage)
- Select Medicare PHR Choice “green” button
- Compare the available PHR tools – link outside of medicare.gov to go to their sites and view demos, etc.
- Sign-up for a PHR tool on the company site you selected
- Once signed-up – access their PHR through the company’s website



# Medicare PHR Choice

- People with Medicare should have their Medicare card with them when they sign-up for their PHR
- Once signed-up for their PHR, the individual must provide key information/Medicare number and authorize Medicare to input their claims data into their PHR automatically.
- Noridian Administrative Services, the Medicare claims processor for AZ and UT, will verify the information and transfer the data into the user's PHR.
- The data is not shared with anyone else and it is not kept or stored by the PHR. The claims are the property of the individual, just like all other information in their PHR.
- If someone decides to delete their account, the claims data is deleted with their PHR file. Claims and entered data cannot be transferred to another PHR.



# Comparing PHR Companies

- Encourage beneficiaries to explore all of the vendors' Web sites.
- The individual's comfort with navigating a site should be a key consideration in selecting a PHR.
- All offer a free PHR, however some companies offer extra services and features for a fee.
- Some PHR companies are discounting their fee during the pilot – check with company to see if there will be a cost to maintain the PHR after the pilot is over.
- See the compare chart for a listing of basic and specialized features and costs.

# Security & Privacy

- PHR accounts have similar security policies and standards to other online functions, like banking and shopping
- Individuals have a unique ID and password for their PHR account
- Each PHR company in the Medicare PHR Choice had to include security and privacy policies to keep individual's information safe
- Each PHR company uses a different security and policy system – it is important to look at them before selecting and signing up for a PHR
- Medicare will not have access to any individual's information in their PHR

# Stay Informed- Region IX Stakeholder Call

- Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 2-3pm PST
- Next call March 19th at 2 pm PST.
- Toll Free: 888-452-0273
- Pass Code: Stakeholder Call
- Leader: David Sajen
- Register for “CMS Region IX Stakeholder” ListServ for notification and details about calls, please contact: [nicole.lockey@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:nicole.lockey@cms.hhs.gov)

*Thank you!*

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