62J.498 HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The following definitions apply to sections 62J.498 to 62J.4982:

(a) "Clinical transaction" means any meaningful use transaction that is not covered by section 62J.536.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of health.

(c) "Direct health information exchange" means the electronic transmission of health-related information through a direct connection between the electronic health record systems of health care providers without the use of a health data intermediary.

(d) "Health care provider" or "provider" means a health care provider or provider as defined in section 62J.03, subdivision 8.

(e) "Health data intermediary" means an entity that provides the infrastructure to connect computer systems or other electronic devices used by health care providers, laboratories, pharmacies, health plans, third-party administrators, or pharmacy benefit managers to facilitate the secure transmission of health information, including pharmaceutical electronic data intermediaries as defined in section 62J.495. This does not include health care providers engaged in direct health information exchange.

(f) "Health information exchange" means the electronic transmission of health-related information between organizations according to nationally recognized standards.

(g) "Health information exchange service provider" means a health data intermediary or health information organization that has been issued a certificate of authority by the commissioner under section 62J.4981.

(h) "Health information organization" means an organization that oversees, governs, and facilitates the exchange of health-related information among organizations according to nationally recognized standards.

(i) "HITECH Act" means the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act as defined in section 62J.495.

(j) "Major participating entity" means:

(1) a participating entity that receives compensation for services that is greater than 30 percent of the health information organization's gross annual revenues from the health information exchange service provider;

(2) a participating entity providing administrative, financial, or management services to the health information organization, if the total payment for all services provided by the participating entity exceeds three percent of the gross revenue of the health information organization; and

(3) a participating entity that nominates or appoints 30 percent or more of the board of directors of the health information organization.

(k) "Meaningful use" means use of certified electronic health record technology that includes e-prescribing, and is connected in a manner that provides for the electronic exchange of health information and used for the submission of clinical quality measures as established by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Minnesota Department of Human Services pursuant to sections 4101, 4102, and 4201 of the HITECH Act.

(l) "Meaningful use transaction" means an electronic transaction that a health care provider must exchange to receive Medicare or Medicaid incentives or avoid Medicare penalties pursuant to sections 4101, 4102, and 4201 of the HITECH Act.

(m) "Participating entity" means any of the following persons, health care providers, companies, or other organizations with which a health information organization or health data intermediary has contracts or other agreements for the provision of health information exchange service providers:

(1) a health care facility licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56, a nursing home licensed under sections 144A.02 to 144A.10, and any other health care facility otherwise licensed under the laws of this state or registered with the commissioner;

(2) a health care provider, and any other health care professional otherwise licensed under the laws of this state or registered with the commissioner;

(3) a group, professional corporation, or other organization that provides the services of individuals or entities identified in clause (2), including but not limited to a medical clinic, a medical group, a home health care agency, an urgent care center, and an emergent care center;

(4) a health plan as defined in section 62A.011, subdivision 3; and

(5) a state agency as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 17.

(n) "Reciprocal agreement" means an arrangement in which two or more health information exchange service providers agree to share in-kind services and resources to allow for the pass-through of meaningful use transactions.

(o) "State-certified health data intermediary" means a health data intermediary that:

(1) provides a subset of the meaningful use transaction capabilities necessary for hospitals and providers to achieve meaningful use of electronic health records;

(2) is not exclusively engaged in the exchange of meaningful use transactions covered by section 62J.536; and

(3) has been issued a certificate of authority to operate in Minnesota.

(p) "State-certified health information organization" means a nonprofit health information organization that provides transaction capabilities necessary to fully support clinical transactions required for meaningful use of electronic health records that has been issued a certificate of authority to operate in Minnesota.

Subd. 2. **Health information exchange oversight.** (a) The commissioner shall protect the public interest on matters pertaining to health information exchange. The commissioner shall:

(1) review and act on applications from health data intermediaries and health information organizations for certificates of authority to operate in Minnesota;

(2) provide ongoing monitoring to ensure compliance with criteria established under sections 62J.498 to 62J.4982;

(3) respond to public complaints related to health information exchange services;

(4) take enforcement actions as necessary, including the imposition of fines, suspension, or revocation of certificates of authority as outlined in section 62J.4982;

(5) provide a biennial report on the status of health information exchange services that includes but is not limited to:

(i) recommendations on actions necessary to ensure that health information exchange services are adequate to meet the needs of Minnesota citizens and providers statewide;

(ii) recommendations on enforcement actions to ensure that health information exchange service providers act in the public interest without causing disruption in health information exchange services;

(iii) recommendations on updates to criteria for obtaining certificates of authority under this section; and

(iv) recommendations on standard operating procedures for health information exchange, including but not limited to the management of consumer preferences; and

(6) other duties necessary to protect the public interest.

(b) As part of the application review process for certification under paragraph (a), prior to issuing a certificate of authority, the commissioner shall:

(1) hold public hearings that provide an adequate opportunity for participating entities and consumers to provide feedback and recommendations on the application under consideration. The commissioner shall make all portions of the application classified as public data available to the public at least ten days in advance of the hearing. The applicant shall participate in the hearing by presenting an overview of their application and responding to questions from interested parties;

(2) make available all feedback and recommendations gathered at the hearing available to the public prior to issuing a certificate of authority; and

(3) consult with hospitals, physicians, and other professionals eligible to receive meaningful use incentive payments or subject to penalties as established in the HITECH Act, and their respective statewide associations, prior to issuing a certificate of authority.

(c) When the commissioner is actively considering a suspension or revocation of a certificate of authority as described in section 62J.4982, subdivision 3, all investigatory data that are collected, created, or maintained related to the suspension or revocation are classified as confidential data on individuals and as protected nonpublic data in the case of data not on individuals.

(d) The commissioner may disclose data classified as protected nonpublic or confidential under paragraph (c) if disclosing the data will protect the health or safety of patients.

(e) After the commissioner makes a final determination regarding a suspension or revocation of a certificate of authority, all minutes, orders for hearing, findings of fact, conclusions of law, and the specification of the final disciplinary action, are classified as public data.

History: *2010 c 336 s 6*