



P.O. Box 158892 · Nashville, TN 37215 · Phone 615-330-5805 · FAX 615-317-2448

Health Information Partnership for Tennessee Selects Axolotl for Statewide Health Information Exchange

SOA Based HIE Platform Enables Health Care Organizations and Consumers to Share Health Information Statewide

Nashville, TN Oct. 7, 2010 –The Health Information Partnership for Tennessee (HIP TN), a partnership of stakeholders working to establish a health information exchange (HIE) in Tennessee, today announced that it has selected the [Elysium® Exchange](#) technology platform from Axolotl Corp., the nationwide leader in health information exchange services and solutions, to build the state’s HIE infrastructure. Key partners leading the state HIE effort are the State of Tennessee, HIP TN, and the Tennessee Regional Extension Center.

HIP TN is a Tennessee not-for-profit organization that works to improve access to health information through a statewide collaborative process by providing services and infrastructure for the secure electronic exchange and use of health information. HIP TN is working with state eHealth officials to establish a “network of networks” across the state that can be accessed by qualified organizations representing providers, physicians, hospitals, other health care organizations and consumers.

“Tennessee will be a national leader in providing access to health information to improve the quality and accuracy of health care,” said HIP TN Board Chair Dr. Robert Mandel. “Axolotl will be our partner as we connect current and future networks of local health information exchanges over the next 12 months to create an overarching statewide network.”

Tennessee currently has health information organizations in Northeast Tennessee, operated by CareSpark, and in Memphis, operated by the Mid-South eHealth Alliance. Similar organizations are being formed in Middle Tennessee and Chattanooga.

Tennessee’s statewide HIE framework includes:

- Core services, such as an electronic provider directory and master facilities index that enables health care providers to locate, positively identify and determine how they can securely exchange information with one another
- Enterprise services to help qualified HIE organizations connect with statewide Immunization Services, Public Health Reporting and Lab Reporting Services
- Value-Added services for inclusion within the statewide HIE framework based on the feasibility, cost and value of the proposed service
- Connectivity to qualified HIE organizations across the state for the exchange of clinical information using the existing HIEs in each region



HIP TN's plan to leverage and connect existing HIEs across the state will provide an efficient and cost-effective means to share clinical data. HIP TN and Axolotl, together with the regional qualified organizations, will deliver a connectivity platform that is aligned with the needs of participants across the state. The platform includes easy-to-use core services, leverages existing infrastructure and provides options for accessing the network to those stakeholders not yet participating in an exchange.

Axolotl's Elysium Exchange is a suite of applications that clinically connects all health care providers and organizations in a medical trading area, region or state. Using Elysium Open Access, Axolotl's state-of-the-art, standards-based service-oriented architecture (SOA) platform and a core part of Elysium Exchange, Axolotl will provide standards-based interfaces to HIP TN's identified qualified organizations representing existing HIEs, physicians, hospitals, other health care organizations and consumers.

Axolotl's Inter-HIE Gateway will provide interfaces to HIP TN's three regional qualified organizations, supporting health information exchange across HIE systems, and support multiregional workflow requirements. Based on the standards and principles of the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN), as well as standards defined by IHE, HITSP, HHS/ONC, and others, the Inter-HIE Gateway will support a variety of exchanges of patient data across HIEs, regardless of the HIE system as long as it is compliant with nationally recognized standards. Furthermore, Axolotl will provide standards-based interfaces to three Tennessee State organizations and/or services (such as Tennessee State Immunization Registry and Medication Management). Lastly, Axolotl's Elysium Public Health Gateway (EPHG) will facilitate timely, standards-based, bi-directional communication between providers who are part of the HIE network and local, state, and national departments of health.

Axolotl's Elysium solution will provide the connection capability across disparate health systems within Tennessee that are serving some of the state's 6 million residents, current and future qualified organizations, and the NHIN, while complying with federal and state standards, laws, and policies, and will help enable health care providers to achieve Meaningful Use of health information technology.

"We appreciate the opportunity to work with HIP TN and the other state stakeholders to build a next-generation HIE platform for the state," said Ray Scott, CEO of Axolotl. "We look forward to connecting the qualified organizations and facilitating the state to electronically share health information to improve the quality of patient care."

This work is being funded through an \$11 million grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology to help connect existing HIEs in Tennessee and reduce the cost of sharing electronic health information between these entities.

HIP-TN will be Axolotl's sixth state HIE customer, after Idaho, Maryland, Nebraska, Utah and, in partnership with ACS, Kentucky. Axolotl also is engaged in a number of other statewide and RHIO initiatives around the country.



About Health Information Partnership for Tennessee (HIP TN)

Health Information Partnership for Tennessee (HIP TN) is a non-profit organization formed in 2009 which works to improve access to health information through a statewide collaborative process by providing services and infrastructure for the secure electronic exchange and use of health information. HIP TN brings together stakeholders representing the state's health care providers, health plans, physicians, businesses and consumers to create a health information exchange that will enable the right medical information to get to the right provider at the right time to enhance patient care. For more information, please visit www.hiptn.org

About Axolotl Corp

Founded in 1995, Axolotl Corp. is North America's leading provider of browser-based products and services for secure health information exchange and management. Its Elysium® Exchange suite of solutions enables health care providers to instantly share information, reduce costs and improve quality and efficiency.

Elysium helps thousands of health care entities—including hospitals, health systems, regional health information organizations (RHIOs/HIEs), clinics, laboratories, radiology centers and physician practices—to securely exchange clinical information for more than 35 million patients. Elysium's community-wide Master Patient Index, EdgeServer(s), Interoperability Hub (I-Hub), Community Virtual Health Record (VHR), and ambulatory EMR with integrated e-Prescribing are all provided as software as a service (SaaS). Axolotl-employed U.S.-based transcriptionists, combined with an integrated NLP engine, provide high-quality medical transcription services for acute and ambulatory care environments connected to Elysium HIEs.

Axolotl is part of Ingenix, a leading health information technology and services company. Based in San Jose, Axolotl is known for introducing Clinical Messaging®, now at the heart of all advanced health information exchange. For more information visit www.axolotl.com and follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/axolotlcorp/>

Contact:

Patrick Willard, Secretary, Health Information Partnership for TN, pwillard@aarp.org

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