



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

February 19, 2010

Christine Nye, Director
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
2727 Mahan Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Nye:

This letter of interest is submitted by the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) as the lead institution to operate a state-level Health Information Organization (HIO) through the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) State Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement.

The FDOH Division of Information Technology has an award-winning Data Integration Team with over 8 years of experience managing a technologically advanced health information exchange. The FDOH information exchange day-to-day management includes interfaces with national and statewide health organizations, like the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Association of Public Health Laboratories, Texas Department of State Health Services, Nationwide Health Information Network, 67 County Health Departments, hospitals, trauma centers and other private organizations across the State, representing a diverse range of health care stakeholders. The FDOH health information exchange facilitates the secure exchange of laboratory orders and results, notifiable disease reporting, immunization records, and HIPAA compliant billing using data exchange national standards. Several members of the Integration Team serve on national standards work groups such as the Public Health Data Standards Consortia.

As a stakeholder in the success of the statewide health information exchange in Florida, the FDOH looks forward to leading and supporting a fully functional health information network in Florida. Please direct future correspondence to Janet Firestone, Data Administrator, Division of IT. Her email address is janet_firestone@doh.state.fl.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph J. Chiaro".

Joseph J. Chiaro, M.D., FAAP
Deputy Secretary and
Deputy State Health Officer for
Children's Medical Services

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