

Regional Roundup

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CAPG has already begun using iHealth, noting that “the system quickly brings the patients into the e-health process and makes them active participants.”

iHealth services also enable the sharing of a patient's record with physicians, family members, and other appropriate caregivers in case of an emergency and includes automated education programs specific to the patient's conditions and medications, patient-physician secure e-mail, and same-day Food and Drug Administration medication warnings and recalls.

Medem, the patient-physician communication network founded by the American Medical Association and U.S. Medical Societies, provides the network for iHealth.

Gulf Coast rebuilds electronically

HHS is collaborating with the Southern Governors' Association and the Louisiana Department of Health and Human Services to plan and promote the use of EHRs in the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast. As hospitals and health centers rebuild, the partnership will help implement, disseminate, and support new records that will eventually connect with each other for an interoperable health information exchange, HHS reports.

The agreement with the governors' association will unite local and national resources and coordinate planning for digital health information programs. The state's department of health agreement will provide EHR support and develop a prototype for sharing health information. ■

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