

Connie, Connecticut's Statewide HIE

A health information exchange, or HIE, is a safe electronic way for health care providers and organizations to share clinical information about their patients. By state statute, Connie was authorized to be an independent, not-for-profit, neutral, and trusted organization to develop and operate the statewide HIE in Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat. 17b-59d and 17b-59g). Connie enables providers and physicians to:

- Better share clinical information across all healthcare settings.
- Support care coordination.
- Reduce preventable costs associated with readmissions and duplicative testing.
- Support public health reporting, research, and population health analytics.
- Adhere to and promote standards and interoperability.
- Provide patient access to their own health information.

Connie is a growing network comprised of hundreds of healthcare providers. As Connecticut's official HIE, Connie is working to connect all of Connecticut's providers, including hospitals, pharmacies, payors, health departments, state agencies, and health centers.

Participation Requirements

State statute requires hospitals and labs to connect to Connie within one year and all other healthcare providers have two years from Connie's date of being operational. According to the statute, upon the HIE being deemed operational, specific requirements for connecting go into effect for hospitals licensed under chapter 368v, clinical laboratories licensed under section 19a-30, and healthcare providers defined as an individual, corporation, facility, or institution licensed by the state to provide healthcare services (Conn. Gen. Stat. 17b-59e).

The Office of Health Strategy (OHS) has announced that Connie is operational as of May 3, 2021.

What it means to “connect” and “participate”

To meet the state's mandate, an organization is connected when its clinical and demographic information is being sent to Connie.

What are the deadlines for meeting this mandate?

- Hospitals and clinical laboratories are required to connect to the HIE within one year of operations (May 3, 2022)
- Healthcare providers are required to connect within two years of operations (May 3, 2023)



How to Connect

Filling out this form initiates the process of connecting to Connie.

The process includes the following steps, with anticipated time frames:

- 1. Return this completed form to Connie through your Connie Account Manager, or info@connieconnect.org to have an Account Manager assigned to your organization.
2. Legal Onboarding (1 month): identify, negotiate, and sign the appropriate legal agreements which Connie will provide to organizations within ten days of submitting the signed Commitment to Connect form.
3. Technical Onboarding (2 months): work with Connie's technical team to create the technical connection needed to facilitate data exchange.
4. Access data (2 months): determine data viewing preference, establish integration (where needed), provide training to end users (when needed).

Please download and complete this form when your organization is ready to initiate the process of connecting to Connie.

Commitment to Connect to Connie Form (Please print clearly)

Completing this form and returning it to Connie serves as documentation of your organization's application to connect to, and participate in, the statewide HIE as required by Conn. Gen. Stat. 17b-59e. Organizations are expected to proceed in good faith with the steps outlined above to complete their requirement under the mandate.

Official Business Name: _____

Affiliations (please list all that apply): _____
e.g., hospital, accountable care organization (ACO), clinically integrated network (CIN), independent physician association (IPA)

Organization NPI: _____

EHR Vendor: _____ EHR Name: _____

Do you use the following lab(s): [] LabCorp [] Quest [] Other? _____
Select all that apply

Main Office Address: _____

Business Website: _____

Full name of person responsible for signing agreements: _____

Email address: _____

- [] We're ready to go! Please send a copy of the legal agreements for connecting to Connie.
[] We would like more information. Please send a meeting invitation to the next Connie Overview and How to Connect Zoom meeting (held on the last Wednesday of every month at noon).

Please provide contact information for the person to be invited to the Connie Overview and How to Connect Zoom meeting:

Name: _____ Email: _____