



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGATÑA, GUAM 96910
U. S. A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2009- 12

RELATIVE TO CREATING THE GUAM eHEALTH COLLABORATIVE (GeHC)

WHEREAS, in 1999, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) estimated that 44,000 to 98,000 Americans die each year as a result of preventable medical errors. The IOM report further estimated that medical errors cost the Nation approximately \$37.6 billion each year; about \$17 billion of those costs are associated with preventable errors. About half of the expenditures for preventable medical errors are for direct health care costs; and

WHEREAS, On April 27, 2004, President Bush called for widespread adoption of interoperable electronic health records within 10 years and established the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology (IT) within the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services. ONC was charged with developing, maintaining, and directing "... the implementation of a strategic plan to guide the nationwide implementation of interoperable health information technology in both the public and private health care sectors that will reduce medical errors, improve quality, and produce greater value for health care expenditures."; and

WHEREAS, the current Federal Administration has pledged to invest \$10 billion a year over the next five years to move the United States health care system to broad adoption of standards-based electronic health information systems, including electronic health records; and

WHEREAS, Guam recognizes that adoption of an island-wide health information infrastructure would improve health care quality, safety and efficiency by: 1) ensuring health information is available to health care providers at the point of care for all patients; 2) reducing medical errors and avoiding duplicative procedures; 3) improving coordination of care between hospitals, physicians, and other health professionals; and 4) providing consumers access to quality and cost information as well as their own health information to encourage greater participation in their health care decisions; and

WHEREAS, an island-wide health information infrastructure must be structured in a manner to protect the privacy and security of the health information of all residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, I Maga'lahaen Guahan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do hereby create the Guam eHealth Collaborative (GeHC).

1. The GeHC shall provide guidance and coordination of electronic health information exchange (eHIE) and related efforts and promote engagement of health care providers, health care systems, and consumers among others;
2. The GeHC shall develop a plan to implement eHIE considering ways to advance the adoption of electronic information technology, identifying opportunities for partnerships, and incorporating national standard setting organization recommendations for secure eHIE;
3. The GeHC shall promote the public good by ensuring an equitable and ethical approach to eHIE for the improvement of health care;



4. The GeHC shall encourage collaboration and facilitate a standardized approach to interoperable eHIE in Guam and the region;
5. The GeHC shall recommend policy that will advance eHIE in Guam while protecting the privacy and security of citizens' private health information;
6. The GeHC shall leverage existing eHIE initiatives in Guam and proactively seek opportunities to utilize HIE for the betterment of Guam's health care system;
7. The GeHC shall consist of **no more** than 15 members appointed by the Governor. The GeHC shall be composed of the Agency Head or a representative from:
 - a. Department of Public Health & Social Services
 - b. Guam Memorial Hospital Authority
 - c. Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse
 - d. Bureau of Information Technology
 - e. Guam Retirement Fund
 - f. Guam Medical Association/Society
 - g. Guam Nursing Association
 - h. Guam Pharmacists Association
 - i. Guam Legislature
 - j. Department of Administration
 - k. Bureau of Budget and Management Research
 - l. Health Insurance Company
 - m. Chamber of Commerce
 - n. Representative(s) identified by Collaborative
8. The GeHC shall meet regularly as determined by the GeHC and provide updates to the Lieutenant Governor, including an annual written report on plans, activities, accomplishments and recommendations for eHIE in Guam;
9. The GeHC shall promote education and engagement among stakeholders to facilitate the successful implementation of eHIE;
10. The GeHC shall further public and private partnerships for the development of an island-wide eHIE infrastructure; and
11. The GeHC shall encourage eHIE initiatives at the local, regional, and national level.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 28 day of July, 2009.

FELIX P. CAMACHO

I Maga' lahen Guahan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

MICHAEL W. CRUZ, M.D.

I Segundu Maga'lahen Guahan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

