



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 880

January 31, 2010

TO: Iowa Medicaid Hospitals, Physicians, Rural Health Clinics, Clinics, Community Mental Health, Maternal Health Centers, Federal Qualified Health Centers, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwife Providers

ISSUED BY: Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

RE: Feedback Requested for Health IT Planning

EFFECTIVE: **Immediately**

The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) requests your participation in an important step for IME planning of provider incentive payments authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and in developing the Medicaid State Health Information Technology Plan. To develop an effective plan, we need to understand your barriers and current status of technology use in your practice.

Iowa e-Health is working to advance health information technology (health IT) in Iowa, including electronic health records (EHRs) and health information exchange (HIE). A priority of Iowa e-Health is to obtain information from health care providers regarding their health IT use and capabilities, as well as information needs which could be met through electronic data sharing with other providers. To meet these objectives, the Iowa Department of Public Health is conducting a provider health IT assessment.

For more information please go to

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ehealth/common/pdf/provider_assessment.pdf, or go to http://iastate.qualtrics.com/SE?SID=SV_5pCpGjofi6FXhXu&SVID=Prod by February 16 to complete the provider assessment. If you are unsuccessful with this link, a printable version of the survey is available by sending an email request to kpeiper@dhs.state.ia.us. Please note that we want only one survey completed per practice location. If someone from your practice has already completed the survey, then you may ignore this request.

Your participation will assist Iowa e-Health in successfully implementing a statewide health information exchange that will help improve health care quality, safety, and efficiency in Iowa. In addition to completing the survey, IME is gauging the level of interest of Medicaid providers in the ARRA Medicaid incentive program. IME is dedicated to reaching all eligible providers to ensure maximum participation in incentive distribution. If you are interested in learning more about the ARRA HIT Medicaid incentive program, or anticipate your organization will apply for EHR adoption incentives, please send an email with your contact information to:

Kelly Peiper, Medicaid HIT Provider Incentive Coordinator
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515-974-3071