



# STATE OF IOWA

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 922

July 19, 2010

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Long-Term Care Facilities

**ISSUED BY:** Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

**RE:** Long Term Care Feedback Requested for Health IT Planning

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) requests your participation in an important step advancing the use of health information technology (health IT) in Iowa. The IME is working closely with Iowa stakeholders to improve health care through the use of health IT. An important step in advancing health IT is the development of the Medicaid State Health Information Technology Plan, which includes determining provider health IT preferences, perceived barriers and status of technology use.

Iowa e-Health is a public and private collaboration with a mission of improving health care quality, safety and efficiency through the use of health IT. This includes electronic health records (EHRs) and other electronic clinical software to collect and store patient health information, and a statewide health information exchange (HIE) to share health records across the boundaries of health care settings.

In early July, **each long-term care organization in Iowa should have received an e-mail message** from the *University of Iowa Public Policy Center* asking you to complete an online Iowa e-Health assessment. The assessment will include questions regarding health IT capabilities, preferences, and perceived benefits and barriers. We ask that you help us by completing the online assessment. This will help ensure long-term care provider voices are heard in health IT planning and implementation. **If you have not received the *University of Iowa* email by July 15<sup>th</sup>, please call (800) 710-8891 or email [peter-damiano@uiowa.edu](mailto:peter-damiano@uiowa.edu).**

Visit [www.idph.state.ia.us/ehealth](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ehealth) for more information about Iowa e-Health and plans for the statewide HIE. Contact Kory Schnoor ([kschnoor@idph.state.ia.us](mailto:kschnoor@idph.state.ia.us) or 515-281-6068) for questions related to the assessment.

For information or questions regarding Medicaid's State Health Information Technology Plan and other planned activities, please contact:

Kelly Peiper, Medicaid HIT Provider Incentive Coordinator  
[imeincentives@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeincentives@dhs.state.ia.us)  
515-974-3071