



Your health depends on the right care at the right time.

That's why healthEconnect provides care teams with comprehensive patient information so Alaskans can receive safer, more timely care.

What is healthEconnect?

healthEconnect Alaska is a nonprofit organization designated in 2009 by the Alaska State Legislature to be the health information exchange (HIE) for all of Alaska.

What is a Health Information Exchange (HIE)?

An HIE is an organization that provides services to support the secure electronic sharing of health-related information. Electronic exchange of clinical information allows healthcare professionals to improve the speed, quality, safety, coordination, and cost of patient care.

Patient Benefits of healthEconnect Alaska

- Supports coordination of your care by providing your treating healthcare providers with more timely access to your health record.
- Enhances the promptness of care by specialists as they have immediate access to your health record, rather than waiting days or weeks for copies of your record from the referring provider.
- Enables the safer administration of your prescription medications by allowing your doctor and treating providers to see a more comprehensive medication list.
- Reduces duplicate medical tests by enabling your doctor and treating providers to gain quick access to medical test results through your health record.
- Empowers you and your treating providers to make informed medical decisions with access to vital health information at the point of care.
- Prevents the risk of losing essential components of your health record in unforeseen events and disasters.

What health information does healthEconnect have about me?

Not all health clinics or providers share information with AK-HEC. You can ask your care provider if they are participating. New providers are added each day, but your physician or care provider's notice of privacy practices will tell you if they share information with AK-HEC.

Who will see my health information?

Participating in the HIE allows **your healthcare team**, including your hospital providers, primary care providers, and specialists to view your health records. This information is only shared with healthcare providers who list you as a patient. Providers must have an existing patient relationship to view your data in the health information exchange.

These providers can retrieve your health data encompassing demographics (age, gender, and address), medication specifics, allergy details, immunization records, health conditions, laboratory results, provider notes, and summaries from other healthcare entities including care coordination documents. Certain categories of **sensitive health information** may not be disclosed unless a patient has given explicit consent.

Your **health insurance company** may have access to your information, but only if they are a healthEconnect participant and only for specific purposes such as coordinating your care, managing healthcare services, and facilitating quality improvement measures. Health insurance companies cannot use the healthEconnect Alaska to access your medical records for insurance underwriting purposes or to determine enrollment or eligibility for coverage.

Can anyone else access my health care information?

No. healthEconnect Alaska does not share patient information with employers or law enforcement. It's also important to understand that your health information cannot be used for sales or advertising. Your health data cannot be used for any other purposes without your written permission.

Is my information secure on the healthEconnect Alaska platform?

Absolutely! Safeguarding patient data holds the utmost importance for healthEconnect Alaska. Our privacy and security protocols align with the highest industry standards and best practices, and continuous audits are conducted to oversee data access. You may request an accounting of disclosures at any time, which will include anyone who's accessed your data through our HIE. This may be requested on our website.

healthEconnect Alaska strictly complies with HIPAA and all other pertinent legal requirements

Do I need to sign up to participate in healthEconnect Alaska?

Participation in healthEconnect Alaska is done at the provider or healthcare organization level. Should your healthcare provider's facility be part of the network, healthEconnect Alaska will have access to your health information. Similar to your medical records at a clinic or healthcare organization, only those directly involved in your care will have the ability to retrieve your information through our HIE.

Can I get a list of everyone who viewed my data in the HIE?

Yes, you can request an accounting of disclosures from AK-HEC. This list of providers will include everyone who has seen any of your data in AK-HEC. You can request that list by completing the webform at <https://disclosures.crisphealth.org/>

What if I don't want my information shared?

You can choose to opt out of sharing your medical information through the healthEconnect website. Participation in the Health Information Exchange (HIE) is voluntary. If you opt out, your information will not be available to participating physicians, even in emergencies, and past information will not be accessible. This decision is personal, and your provider cannot force you to participate. We encourage sharing your information to ensure the best possible care.

Interested in more information?

(866) 966-9030 | info@healthconnectak.org
healthconnectak.org

healthEconnect
ALASKA

