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## New Yorkers Encouraged to Comment on Proposed Consent Model Changes

**ROCHESTER, N.Y., April 20, 2017** —The New York e-Health Collaborative (NYeC), in partnership with the New York State Department of Health (DOH), encourages members of the public to share comments and discussion about a proposal to modify the consent model framework governing the Statewide Health Information Network for New York (SHIN-NY). The Rochester RHIO is encouraging residents in its 13-county region to review and share their opinions about the proposed changes.

The proposed changes stem from an analysis of the SHIN-NY consent rules that DOH, NYeC, and other stakeholders undertook in the past year.

For two of the proposals, regarding patient alerts and alternative consent forms, DOH is proposing language to modify the Privacy and Security Policies and Procedures for Qualified Entities (QE) and their participants in New York State (the Policies). DOH oversees the policies, which set forth the privacy rules that govern exchanges through QEs.

There are two sets of proposed changes—the first to be implemented in the short term, and another set for longer term consideration. Comments should be provided on the short-term proposals by **April 27, 2017** and on the mid-to-long-term proposals by **May 12, 2017**. A full overview of the proposed changes may be found on the NYeC website under News and Information: <http://www.nyehealth.org/>. New York State residents should submit comments via email to [publiccomments@nyehealth.org](mailto:publiccomments@nyehealth.org). All comments will be taken into consideration as the policies are modified.

Rochester RHIO is part of the SHIN-NY, a “network of networks” that links it to New York’s seven other regional QEs – from Buffalo to the Bronx. This allows healthcare providers from each QE to exchange and access records securely across the State.

NYeC is a not-for-profit organization, working in partnership with the New York State Department of Health to improve healthcare for all New Yorkers through health information technology. NYeC works to develop policies and standards that support the utilization of health IT, assisting healthcare providers in adopting and effectively using electronic health records (EHRs), and coordinating the development of the SHIN-NY.

### About Rochester RHIO

*Rochester RHIO is a secure electronic health information exchange serving authorized medical providers and over one million consenting patients in Monroe, Allegany, Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates counties in Upstate New York.*

*The service allows a medical care team to share records across institutions and practices, making patient information available wherever and whenever needed to provide the best care. Patients benefit from fewer repeated tests, easier second opinions, a reduced risk of mistakes caused by poor handwriting or incomplete records, and more informed care during office visits and emergencies. It is a Qualified Entity of the Statewide Health Information Network of New York (SHIN-NY). Health care professionals and patients can learn more by visiting [RochesterRHIO.org](http://RochesterRHIO.org) or by calling 877-865-RHIO (7446).*

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