

# DISASTER RESPONSE IN HEALTH IT

*eHealth Advisory Committee Meeting | December 6, 2021*

# AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. About the THSA
3. Update on HIETexas PULSE
4. STAR HIE Program – SANER Project
5. Questions & Answers



# WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

# ABOUT THE TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

# TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

- Created in 2007 by the Texas Legislature as the public/private entity to promote and coordinate electronic health information exchange in the State of Texas.
- Operates two major functions: (1) HIETexas -- electronic health information exchange platform, and (2) SECURETexas – a privacy and security certification program.
- Governed by a 12-member board of directors, appointed by the Texas Governor and confirmed by the Texas Senate. Two ex-officio members representing state health agencies also sit on the board.



# UPDATE ON HIE TEXAS PULSE

# PULSE USE CASE #1

## TREATMENT IN ALTERNATE CARE SITES

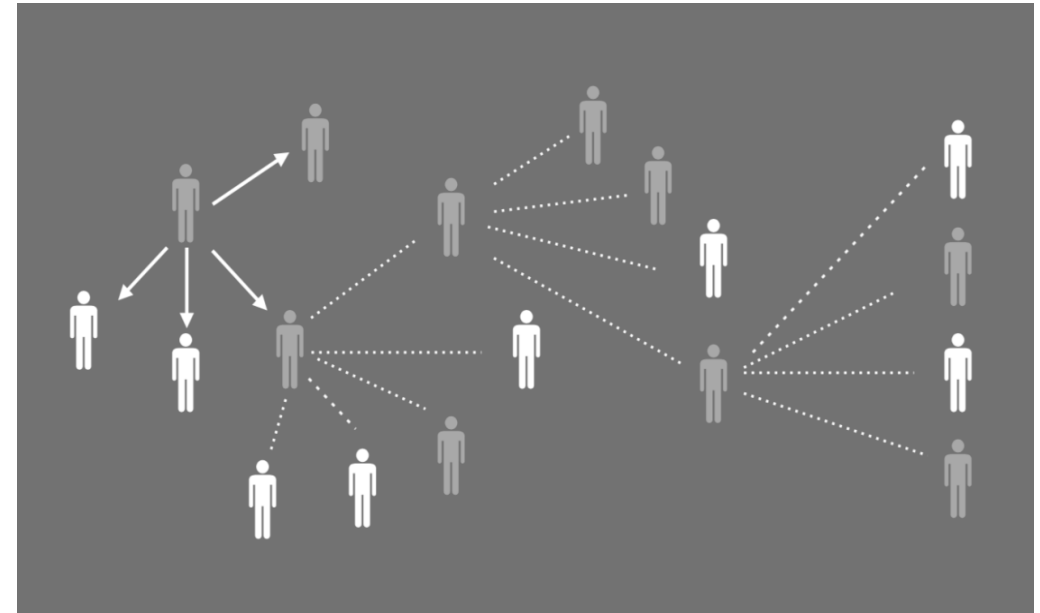
- In disasters, patients often seek care outside of their routine health care settings:
  - Shelters,
  - quarantine sites,
  - vaccination clinics, etc.
- Using PULSE, clinical providers in alternate care settings can access health and medication history.



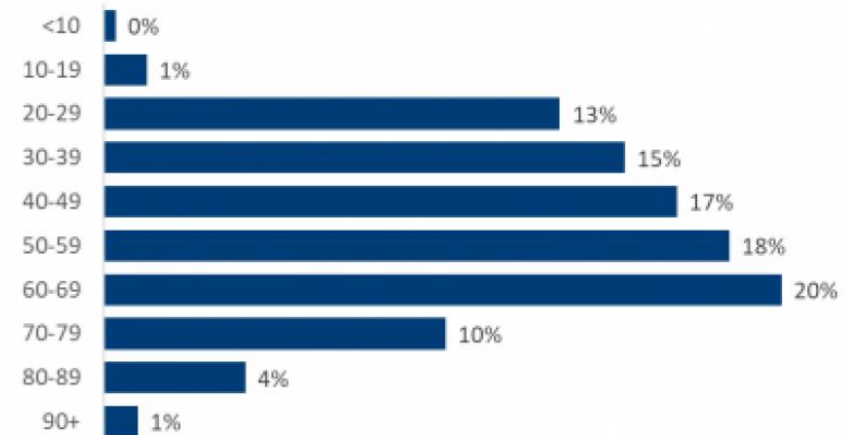
# PULSE USE CASE #2

## CASE AUGMENTATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH OUTREACH

- Public health professionals can search for patients with infectious disease diagnoses to fill in demographic gaps and identify household members to facilitate outreach and contact tracing strategies.
- Public health professionals can retrieve clinical documents for a patient with confirmed infectious disease to understand healthcare encounters, comorbidities, medications and other information relevant to epidemiological assessment of the disease.



Percent of total COVID-19 case-patients by age group  
Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System, March 29, 2020 (n=1,112)





# UPDATE ON HIETEXAS PULSE (1/2)

HIETexas Service	Status
Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies (PULSE)	Ready for deployment

- **Current status:**
  - Live and available for immediate use during declared disasters
  - Administrator and end-user training videos and materials now available on THSA's new website
  - Business Continuity Planning (BCP) for HIETexas PULSE is nearly complete
  - Upgraded to allow for easier administration of multiple simultaneous disasters
- **Next steps:**
  - Finishing business continuity plan
  - Exploring options for expanded use cases for all emergencies (beyond declared disasters)

# UPDATE ON HIE TEXAS PULSE (2/2)

- HIETexas PULSE Texas disaster response medical shelter organization updates:
  - Recent accomplishments:
    - Administrative users onboarded to PULSE
    - Began work on process integration (for PULSE deployment lifecycle)
    - Added PULSE training to their internal company Learning Management System
  - Next steps:
    - Additional training of administrative users
    - Complete process integration (for PULSE deployment lifecycle)

# UPDATE ON STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT

# UPDATE ON STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT (1/4)

## Problem Statement

- The process by which hospitals transmit capacity (e.g., space, staff, supplies) and capability (e.g., available specialty care) data to public health authorities and emergency response personnel **lacks a standard data language** and common framework for exchange.
- This can lead to an **incomplete understanding** of a given region's acute care capacity and capability.
- The current data submission process can be **time/resource intensive** for hospital staff.

# UPDATE ON STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT (2/4)

## Vision Statement

- Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) can be used as a **common standard for hospitals** and health systems to share select information.
- Data can be **extracted automatically** and in **real-time** from underlying data systems at both the hospital and regional HIE level.
- Data can then be **leveraged by multiple local, state and federal agencies** for dashboards, reports and analytics.

# UPDATE ON STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT (3/4)

IETexas Service	Status
STAR HIE Program – Situational Awareness for Novel Epidemic Response (SANER) Project	PILOT

## Current status:

- Completed an RFP for FHIR-based Application Software Development Services
- Completed search for pilot hospital(s)
- Working with DSHS/ONC/other HIEs on path forward regarding supplemental award and vaccination data

## Next steps:

- Begin development of FHIR-based Application Software Development Services
- Complete draft of sustainability plan

# UPDATE ON STAR HIE PROGRAM – SANER PROJECT (4/4)

There are two components of the STAR HIE Program:

Underlying award	Supplemental award
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awarded to THSA (with sub-awards to Ai and HASA) in <b>September 2020</b></li><li>• <b>Two-year</b> cooperative agreement</li><li>• Relates to exchange of <b>situational awareness data</b></li><li>• Have signed MOU with DSHS and Dallas County</li><li>• THSA <b>plays active part</b> in data exchange</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expanded to also include other HIEs (such as GHH and RGVHIE) in <b>January 2021</b></li><li>• <b>One-year</b> cooperative agreement</li><li>• Relates to exchange of <b>vaccination data</b></li><li>• Need MOU with DSHS</li><li>• THSA acts only as <b>fiscal agent</b>; all data exchange activities would take place between HASA, Ai and DSHS</li></ul>

# QUESTIONS?

