

Your Health Information . . . Always at Your Doctor's Fingertips

To give you the safest, best care, your doctor usually needs a lot of information: your medical history, allergies, prescriptions, specialist visits, lab tests and more. The Healthcare Information Xchange of New York (HIXNY pronounced HIX-KNEE) is an easy way for your doctors to get this information.

HIXNY has created a secure, electronic service for exchanging health information among hospitals and doctors in the Capital Region. This service allows your doctor to view and share information like medication history, allergies, and test results. It also lets doctors write prescriptions online and send them to your pharmacy.

The benefits of having accurate, up-to-date information include fewer repeated tests, reduced risk of mistakes, easier second opinions, and less chance of drug interactions.

Why does my doctor need online access to my medical information?

At a routine office visit, your doctor needs to have your current records. In a medical emergency, the doctors treating you may not have time to track down critical information that could affect your treatment – and you may not be able to provide it. If you sign up with HIXNY to make your information available online to the doctors who need it, HIXNY can literally save lives.

How do doctors get my information now?

Your doctors rely on phone calls, faxes, mail, and you to provide information they need. When you sign up for HIXNY, your doctor will get a lot of your information from others who treat you using a secure online service. By spending less time tracking down information, doctors can spend more time on patient care.

Will my medical information be safe?

By law, HIXNY uses the most advanced security to protect your privacy. Access to your information will be limited to doctors treating you, and HIXNY tracks every person who accesses information. This service just makes it more efficient to get the information that is already being shared via telephone, faxes, and mail. There is no database that stores your information, just a secure way to share information between your doctors.

How do I sign up?

All you need to do is sign the **HIXNY Consent Form** and return it to the registration desk.

What if I don't want some of my medical information shared through HIXNY?

HIXNY is not set up to exclude specific information, such as mental health information or sexually transmitted diseases. However, your information is kept private and secure. Only medical professionals who help provide your care can see your information.

What should I do if I change my mind?

If you change your mind, ask for another **HIXNY Consent Form** to change your decision.

Why can't my teenager participate in HIXNY?

New York State law allows teenagers to seek care for some conditions without parental knowledge or consent. Having their information accessible through HIXNY could compromise the confidentiality protection guaranteed to teenagers by those laws.

What area does HIXNY cover?

HIXNY includes 17 upstate counties: Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Otsego, Rensselaer, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, and Washington.

Get More Information: Ask us or contact HIXNY: (518) 783-0518 or visit www.hixny.org.