

# UNDERSTANDING Health Information Exchange (HIE)



## What is Health Information Exchange and why is it important?

Health Information Exchange, or HIE, is a way of securely sharing electronic health information with your provider in a clinic, hospital, lab, and other healthcare organization. HIE allows delivery of health information providing safer, more timely, efficient, patient-centered care.

For example, with access to HIE, your provider can review recent lab results whether the test was conducted at your primary care provider, hospital, or lab reducing the need for additional tests.

## How is my medical information kept private?

Protecting patient information in the health information exchange is top priority. Health information exchanges are required to follow state and federal privacy and security laws to protect patient health information. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy and Security regulations establish the requirements to protect your protected health information (PHI).

## What are the benefits of having a Health Information Exchange (HIE)?

To provide a patient the most effective care, providers may need to share health information about a patient, and this process can be time-consuming. With HIE, your provider can have immediate access to important medical information and can help avoid unnecessary tests, procedures, and costly medical bills.

## Can I choose not to participate in the Health Information Exchange (HIE)?

Yes, patients can choose to opt out of health information exchange. At the time you establish care, an HIE authorization is included as part of your new patient packet.

Participation in the HIE is voluntary and subject to your right to opt-in or opt-out. Your receipt of treatment or health plan coverage for treatment is not conditioned on whether you choose to opt-in or opt out of the HIE.

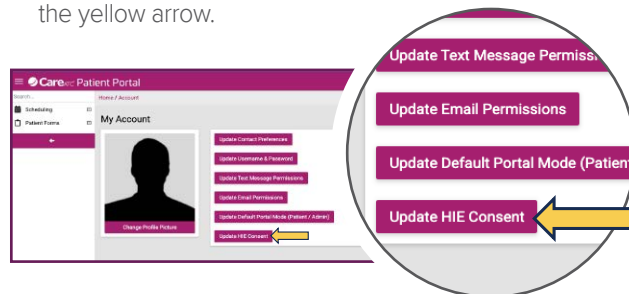
## CareATC Health Information Exchange (HIE) Participation

CareATC is proud to participate in the Carequality Health Information Exchange (HIE) allowing for the secure electronic delivery of patient medical information to improve the quality of our health care services.

*If you do not currently participate in the Health Information Exchange (HIE) and would like to visit our patient portal, directions are listed below.*

## Accessing the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Consent in the CareATC Patient Portal

- 1 Login to the **Patient Portal** and navigate to **My Account**.
- 2 Click the **Update HIE Consent** tab as indicated below by the yellow arrow.



- 3 Within the HIE Consent, type your name, dob, and select **YES** or **NO** from the **dropdown** indicated by the yellow arrows.

