

The Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative one of the first organizations of its kind to receive federal tax-exempt status

Monday, April 6, 2009

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Boston – On April 3, 2009, the Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative (MAeHC) was granted federal tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. MAeHC, a nonprofit organization known for its pioneering electronic health record/health information exchange pilot program in Massachusetts, is one of the first organizations of its kind to receive tax-exempt status. The MAeHC pilot program involved more than 500 clinicians and 500,000 patients in three Massachusetts communities.

“There are high expectations at the state and federal levels that health IT will play an important role in improving the quality, efficiency, and affordability of health care,” states Micky Tripathi, president and CEO of MAeHC. “We are pleased that the federal government recognizes the vital public role that implementing organizations like MAeHC will have to play if those expectations are to be met.”

MAeHC is currently sponsoring a number of evaluation activities to assess the impact of the Massachusetts pilot program on physician adoption of health IT and on community health. “We are also eagerly anticipating the release of state and federal funding for publicly oriented health IT efforts,” reports Alan Macdonald. Macdonald is the chair of the MAeHC board of directors and the executive director of the Massachusetts Business Roundtable.

*The **Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative** was formed in 2004 to bring together the state’s major health care stakeholders for the purpose of establishing an electronic health record system that would enhance the quality, efficiency, and safety of care in Massachusetts. MAeHC’s charitable mission is to transform the delivery of health care by promoting the use of health IT through community-based adoption of electronic health records and health information exchange. Working with the Massachusetts health care community, MAeHC is fostering rapid widespread adoption of these systems. To learn more about the Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative, please visit www.maehc.org.*

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