

WNC DATA LINK

CONNECTIVITY FOR QUALITY PATIENT CARE

Immediate access to over 2 million regional medical records



Proven Value for Providers¹

- 40% efficiency savings from faster record access
- 20% reduction in costs to share and transfer patient records
- 15% reduction in duplication of preoperative lab tests
- 5% reduction in medical errors

Future Plans

- Potential to connect your EMR with other practices as new connections are added
- Ability to import data directly into your EMR
- Access to retail pharmacy information
- Patient portal where patients can review their own records

WNC Data Link is a regional network supporting local referral patterns

Value for Patients

- Strengthen continuity of care
- Avoid redundant tests and procedures
- More accurate referrals to appropriate providers
- Cost savings to patient
- Save time in collection of medical information
- Improved patient satisfaction

The National goal is a Nationwide Health Information Exchange where everyone will have an electronic health record.

Why Now?

WNC Data Link's original design and development was funded using federal and private grants. Since 2006, hospitals have provided a monthly usage fee for the operation and support of WNC Data Link. Effective January 1, 2012, access to WNC Data Link will have a monthly subscription fee of \$20 per month for ambulatory based providers. There is a potential ROI² of 175% for ambulatory providers. Collective support by all providers will ensure WNC Data Link continues to be available as a resource for our region.

Testimonials

“As a primary care physician, continuity of care for my patients is important. I find that the immediate access to critical inpatient and outpatient information helps me make more efficient decisions for my patient's care transition.”

~ Michael A Brown, MD
Hazelwood Family Medicine, PLLC

“The ability to immediately access results of radiology studies, labs, and even discharge summaries often eliminates the need to repeat these tests again at our facility. This saves the patient time, money, and in the case of radiology studies can significantly reduce unnecessary exposure to radiation.”

~ Jason Hunt, MD
Emergency Medicine

Background

The WNC Health Network, established in 1995, is a collaboration of hospitals and other health care providers that supports the delivery of cost-effective, quality health services. WNC Data Link, established in 2006, is a regional health information exchange (HIE) linking a variety of electronic health records. Hospital members in WNC Data Link include: Angel Medical Center, Blue Ridge Regional Hospital, CarePartners Health Services, Charles George VA Medical Center, Cherokee Indian Hospital, Harris Regional Hospital, Haywood Regional Medical Center, Highlands-Cashiers Hospital, Margaret R. Pardee Memorial Hospital, Mission Hospital, Murphy Medical Center, Park Ridge Health, Rutherford Regional Medical Center, St. Luke's Hospital, Swain County Hospital, The McDowell Hospital and Transylvania Regional Hospital.

In 2011 the Data Link Advisory Board was established to review plans and priorities for the development and enhancement of WNC Data Link for the exchange of medical information between healthcare professionals for patient care. Board representation includes healthcare executives, hospital providers and area physicians.

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¹*The Total Economic Impact Of Smarter Planet Solutions For Healthcare.* Forrester Consulting, 2010

²Assumes 1 additional patient per month and a Medicaid reimbursement of \$55