

Florida Payers Move on e-Prescribing

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The ePrescribe Florida Collaborative, comprising a number of insurers in the state working to encourage more use of electronic prescription technology, has released its initial list of registered e-prescription vendors.

The vendors meet specific criteria for functionality, including drug-drug and drug-allergy interaction alerts and compliance with Medicare Part D e-prescribing standards. The registered vendors are: DrFirst, H2H Solutions, Informed Decisions (Gold Standard), InstantDx, iScribe, MedPlus, MDI Achieve, Misys Healthcare Systems, NextGen Healthcare Information Systems, RelayHealth, RxNT, SSIMED and Zix Corp.

The ePrescribe Florida Collaborative, on its Web site, offers information to help physicians select the appropriate vendor and product based on the practice's practice management and electronic health records software and other considerations.



Insurer leaders of the collaborative include Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Humana Inc., United Healthcare and AvMed. "We are about outreach, education and evangelicalism," says Walt Culbertson, executive director of the collaborative.

Within weeks, the Florida Blues plan and Humana, working through the Availity LLC claims clearinghouse in Jacksonville, will offer free e-prescribing software, PDAs, printers and other services through Prematics Inc., Bethesda, Md. (for story, [click here](#)).

CVS Caremark, which operates a large drug store chain and a pharmacy benefit management firm, also very soon will offer for free its Web-based iScribe software, along with PDAs, printers and other equipment.

The collaborative wants to expand nationally and become an umbrella organization for local or regional e-prescription initiatives, Culbertson says. It also wants to work with EHR vendors to expand use of e-prescribing with records software.

More information is available at eprescribeflorida.com.

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