

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2011

-NEWS CONFERENCE-

**Indiana Health Information Exchange to host open mic sessions
with Jonathan Blum, Director of Medicare**

*Physicians, Hospitals, Health Insurers and Employers to discuss the proposed federal
healthcare regulations during Blum's visit to Indianapolis*

INDIANAPOLIS – Healthcare decision makers will convene in Indianapolis next week to discuss proposed federal regulations that would create a new type of health care entity called “accountable care organizations” (ACOs). Jonathan Blum, Deputy Administrator and Director for the Center of Medicare at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will meet with top executives from area hospital systems, medical groups, health insurance companies, major employers and the Indiana Health Information Exchange (IHIE) to hear feedback on the proposed regulations.

IHIE and the Employers’ Forum of Indiana (EFI) are hosting Blum’s meetings with industry executives next week. The proposed regulations, which were announced on March 31, aim to reduce healthcare costs and improve the quality of patient care. These regulations would impact millions of Medicare beneficiaries across the country, including more than 1 million Hoosiers.

Health information exchanges are expected to play an important role in the ability of ACOs to meet federal compliance measures. In Indiana, IHIE has already connected more than 80 healthcare facilities and transmitted over 3.3 billion pieces of health data across the secure network. IHIE is the nation’s largest health information exchange and the lead member of the Central Indiana Beacon Community, which received a \$16 million investment in 2010 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to help community healthcare providers improve control of chronic diseases like diabetes and reduce preventable re-admissions.

An ACO will include physicians, hospitals and others involved in patient care.

WHAT: A news conference will be held to provide an overview of the day’s events and media will have an opportunity to ask questions.

WHEN: Tuesday, July 19, 2011
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EDT

WHERE: Non-local media are invited to join by phone. A recording of the call will be available upon request.
Phone Number: (317) 278-7008
Participant PIN: 245200#

University Place Conference Center – ROOM 138
850 W. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN

Directions: <http://www.universityplace.iupui.edu/maps>

Map: <http://tinyurl.com/MapofUP>

Parking is available in the garage, enter off North Street.

WHO: **Jonathan Blum**, Deputy Administrator and Director for the Center of Medicare at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Harold Apple, CEO and President of the Indiana Health Information Exchange
Dave Kelleher, Director, Employers' Forum of Indiana
Aaron McKethan, Beacon Community Program Director, Office of the National Coordinator

Media Contact:

Molly Butters

Indiana Health Information Exchange

317-735-4082

408-368-7138 cell

MButters@ihie.org

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