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## **Michigan Health Information Network Demonstrates Enhanced Care Coordination Among EMS & Hospitals**

*Bidirectional exchange of data between Fire, EMS and hospitals allows for better-informed decisions in emergencies and delivery of informed care over time*

**LANSING, Mich. and DANVILLE, CA** – The Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services (MiHIN), Beyond Lucid Technologies (BLT), Reading Emergency Unit (REU) and Hillsdale Hospital today announced a collaborative pilot project aimed at improving patient care coordination among emergency medical services (EMS) agencies and receiving hospitals.

Despite being an integral part of the health care delivery system, many of America's largest hospital systems, and the fire and ambulance services that care for the communities around them, operate in information silos, exchanging no real-time data or doing so in formats that are not usable by electronic health records or health information exchanges (HIEs) or health data utilities (HDU). This lack of data flow persists during emergencies en route to the hospital and during post-discharge care transitions.

The pilot brought together BLT, Hillsdale Hospital, MiHIN, and REU to tackle this challenge head on, leveraging BLT's MEDVIEW BEACON Prehospital Health Information Exchange to facilitate bi-directional interoperability between the Reading Emergency Unit and Hillsdale Hospital through MiHIN's secure network. This real-time flow of information will empower Mobile Medical professionals with a more complete picture of a patient's health at critical moments, so they can make informed decisions and provide better care.

During the pilot, when an REU ambulance is transporting a patient to Hillsdale Hospital, the service will transmit its electronic patient care record containing the patient's clinical data, including vital signs, medical history, and social determinants of health, to BLT, a company that specializes in healthcare data exchange and analytics. BLT will convert the data into a Continuity of Care Document (CCD) and securely transmit it to MiHIN. MiHIN will leverage its network to route the CCD to Hillsdale Hospital, allowing them to gain a comprehensive view of the patient's condition before their arrival. Additionally, MiHIN will establish a real-time active care relationship between the patient and Hillsdale Hospital, facilitating seamless care coordination.

In the second phase of the pilot, MiHIN will create a real-time active care relationship between the patient and the Mobile Medical agency, enabling it to receive future discharge medication reconciliation reports from participating hospitals, improving medication management for patients. Furthermore, MiHIN will



securely share the ambulatory CCD with any participating members of the patient's care team who have an established relationship with the patient within the MiHIN network.

MiHIN plans to expand the pilot to include fire services, beginning with Long Lake Township Fire-Rescue in Grand Traverse County. Fire services are an integral component of EMS response that

is strategically and geographically designed to deliver time critical response and effective patient care rapidly. This expanded initiative was recently built into a federal funding proposal submitted in collaboration with BLT.

This collaborative initiative represents a significant step towards achieving true interoperability in the healthcare system. By bridging the gap between pre-hospital care and hospitals, it has the potential to revolutionize emergency response and patient care coordination. For additional information about MiHIN's statewide network, visit [www.mihin.org](http://www.mihin.org).

#### **Supporting Quotes:**

“At Hillsdale Hospital, part of our mission is to ensure that families have access to high-quality care when and where they need it,” said **Jeremiah J. Hodshire, President and CEO of Hillsdale Hospital**. “To achieve that, we have to provide continuity of care from the minute the patient sees an ambulance pulling up to the minute they are discharged from the hospital. This collaborative pilot project, facilitating real-time data exchange between EMS and hospitals, will simplify the process of patient handoff from from EMS to ER, allowing us to work together as one team. This represents a major leap towards achieving true interoperability in healthcare. By bridging the gap between pre-hospital care and our facility, this initiative has the potential to revolutionize emergency response and ultimately transform patient care coordination. We are proud to be partnering with MiHIN, BeyondLucid and Reading to steward in a new era of health information exchange in Michigan.”

“Ambulance and Fire services are often the first point of contact for patients suffering a medical emergency. In these time-sensitive situations, expedient access to accurate patient health information is critical for making informed decisions and providing effective care,” said **Dr. Tim Pletcher, DHA, Executive Director of MiHIN**. “The partnership between MiHIN, Reading, Hillsdale Hospital and Beyond Lucid Technologies offers a promising solution for improving access to patient data in pre-hospital settings by providing a more complete picture of a patient's health during critical moments and minimizes the risk of errors associated with incomplete or inaccurate information.”

**According to Jonathon Feit, Co-Founder & Chief Executive of Beyond Lucid Technologies:** “This multi-stakeholder pilot is groundbreaking in its technical sophistication and scope. Michigan is a complex prehospital and post-hospital medical transportation ecosystem, and the partners to this project sought to create an onramp for any Mobile Medical agency to enjoy the benefits of true interoperability across



the state. It also proves something that deserves to be shouted from the rooftops: This isn't about Fire or EMS, or public or private services. It is about continuity of patient care, and getting everyone on the same page so that responders can deliver the most informed care possible. MIHIN is the center of a data sharing model that ensures 'downstream' clinicians know how much crews in the field did to care for their patient. MIHIN again proved that Mobile Medical professionals belong at healthcare's table, so we're grateful for their leadership."

**Keith O'Neill, Executive Director of the Reading Emergency Unit, said:** "Over the years, our organization has committed countless hours to managing patient data, often navigating the challenges of waiting for callbacks and faxing documents. With the invaluable support of Hillsdale Hospital initially, plus the visionary leadership of Jonathon Feit at Beyond Lucid Technologies, who aligned Reading Emergency Unit with Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services (MiHIN), our ambulance service has truly leaped into the 21st Century with advanced data sharing capabilities. I am deeply thankful to everyone who has been part of this journey. From the dedicated team members behind the scenes who often go unrecognized, to the collaborators and partners who have supported us every step of the way – your contributions have been instrumental. Reading Emergency Unit appreciates each and every one of you for your hard work, dedication, and commitment to improving our capabilities and service delivery. Thank you all for making this transformation possible."

**Christopher Mageira, Deputy Chief of Long Lake Township Fire Rescue, said:** "Long Lake Fire Rescue is excited to find new avenues to expand information interoperability via the State of Michigan Health Information Network. Our project goal is to enhance the collection and effective use of data to positively impact our community before, during, and after emergency responses. Reducing the steps and time needed to collect and utilize data to optimize workflows is a central focus toward improving overall patient outcomes. Our staff is eager to work with the Michigan Health Information Network to develop new and innovative methodology to exchange critical patient information."

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#### **About Beyond Lucid Technologies, Inc.**

Beyond Lucid Technologies develops software to inform Mobile Medical Professionals about patients' needs even before they arrive on-scene, then empower them to share insights across the care continuum in real-time. Our Communication Platform-as-a-Service (CPaaS) makes Fire, EMS, Non-Emergency Medical / Inter-Facility Transport, Critical Care (Ground & Air), and Community Paramedicine / Mobile Integrated Health (CP/MIH) safer, more efficient and more cost-effective. With a network spanning over 30 states and the federal government, and 300+ hospitals, BLT has been called "Silicon Valley's Emergency Medical Technology Experts." We deployed the first statewide, EMS-accessible registry of POLST forms and pediatric special health needs data; the first "prehospital pipes" for SAMHSA-compliant data sharing in substance use intervention programs; and tools to protect Responders' mental, physical and behavioral health. Winner of the 2019 Frost & Sullivan Technology Leadership Award for EMS Communications Platform, and awards from EMS World and the Journal of EMS. Online at [www.BeyondLucid.com](http://www.BeyondLucid.com)



### **About Hillsdale Hospital**

Founded in 1915, Hillsdale Hospital is a community-based hospital providing high-quality healthcare in south central Lower Michigan. It is a 2022 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital (The Chartis Center for Rural Health); a 2022 Top Workplace in Michigan (Detroit Free Press); and a 2023 Top Workplace USA and 2023 Healthcare Top Workplace (Energage). The hospital offers comprehensive care, including acute inpatient services, advanced radiology and imaging services, full-service laboratory, surgery, a state-of-the-art birthing center, emergency care, inpatient psychiatric care and more. The healthcare organization also delivers specialty care and owns and operates multiple outpatient clinics. Specialty care provided includes pulmonology and sleep disorders, orthopedics in affiliation with University of Toledo Medical Center, home care, a pain management clinic, short-stay rehab, vascular care and more. Two clinics provide accessible primary care, with Hillsdale Health & Wellness available for walk-ins and Reading Health Clinic offering same-day appointments. For more information, visit [www.hillsdalehospital.com](http://www.hillsdalehospital.com).

### **About Long Lake Township Fire Rescue**

Long Lake Fire-Rescue provides fire protection, rescue services, and advanced life support emergency medical services (EMS) to the 36-square-mile Long Lake Township, Michigan. The department serves approximately 10,000 residents and visitors with a team of full-time, part-time, and paid-on-call personnel responding to over 575 emergency calls annually. Long Lake Fire-Rescue is committed to community safety through preparedness, prevention, and response.

### **About MiHIN**

The Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN) is a non-profit public benefit corporation created by the state of Michigan to improve health care quality, efficiency, and patient safety through the secure exchange of health information. MiHIN connects health care providers across Michigan, enabling them to share a patient's electronic medical record securely and confidentially. For more information, visit [www.mihin.org](http://www.mihin.org).

### **About Reading Emergency Unit**

Reading Emergency Unit is a leading provider of emergency medical services in Hillsdale County, Michigan. Reading is committed to providing high-quality, compassionate care to all patients in need. For more information, visit <https://www.readingemergency.org/about-1/>