LHCSAs and Information Sharing

You may have been notified by the Department of Health (DOH/the Department) that certain regulated provider types must:

"...participate with and ensure bi-directional access to patient information through the Statewide Health Information Network for New York (SHIN-NY). These facilities must execute a SHIN-NY Common Participation Agreement (SCPA)."

Recent notices also stress that the deadline to sign the SCPA is September 30, 2025.

For many months, HCP has been in contact with state officials from multiple divisions and teams to sort out the LHCSA requirements pertaining to the SHIN-NY. Additionally, we talked with other stakeholders in the home care space including an attorney, HCP's lobby firm, and our association colleagues, who all agreed the requirements were unclear.

Thanks to a collaboration last week between HCP, the Department's Office of Aging and Long-term Care (OALTC), and the Bureau of Data Programs and Policy Office of Health Services Quality and Analytics (also part of DOH), a consensus was finally reached.

Due in part to HCP's outreach and advocacy efforts, the September SCPA deadline is being tempered for Licensed Home Care Services Agencies (LHCSA). Leniency is being extended because LHCSAs have historically not had these SHIN-NY capabilities, and many do not have the systems in place.

We will have more information about this topic in the *HCP Insider* on Friday, but the topline items you need to know are:

- LHCSAs will not be penalized for missing the September 30, 2025, deadline.
- OALTC will release a Dear Administrator Letter (DAL) about the topic in about six weeks.
- The Bureau of Data Programs and Policy will work with LHCSAs needing introductory materials from the New York eHealth Collaborative (NYeC), the entity that facilitates the SHIN-NY and the new SCPA.
- HCP hopes to gather experts for an educational webinar on this topic.

More Information

When your HCP Public Policy team undertook a "Beef and Brainstorm" quest a few years ago, we collected member thoughts about regulatory reform. One of the common themes we heard from providers is that electronic communication would improve processes and efficiency in maintaining and sharing health records. We are happy to report that the time is now for addressing that "beef".

Review <u>the SHIN-NY SCPA information</u> and get started on <u>executing the SCPA</u> whenever you're ready.

Email your <u>Public Policy team</u> or <u>NYeC</u> if you need information about the SHIN-NY or SCPA before the DAL is issued.