

Minnesota Electronic Health Library

MeHL

We envision a healthier Minnesota by providing all Minnesotans with 24/7 access to evidence-based, clinical care information.

Need

Effective health care requires access to reliable, high quality health information. Such professional-level health information is only available through costly licenses from publishers (it is *not* freely available on the web). This means that the majority of our state's health care providers, educators, students, researchers, patients, and caregivers do not have access to the information they need to support their work and training, or to promote patient engagement and informed decision-making.

Solution

MeHL will provide equal access to evidence-based clinical care information (point-of-care tools, prescription drug references, full-text medical books and journals) for all Minnesotans. This will advance health and health care in the state as:

- Health providers will have equal access to quality information that can be leveraged to address health disparities.
- Rural health providers will experience the benefits of quality information, supporting workforce development within health professional shortage areas.
- Educators will have a shared set of resources to train our state's future healthcare workforce.
- Health professions students will benefit from consistent and uniform access to information throughout their training and into practice.
- Patients will have tools to support engagement and informed decision-making.
- Caregivers will be better prepared to manage the health needs of their loved ones.

Action

Contact your legislators to let them know the important role that MeHL would play in your life. Ask for their support of MeHL as part of the University of Minnesota's "Healthy Minnesota" biennial budget request.

We need your support to make MeHL a reality!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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"There is the concern that the large integrated networks will have access to lots of good information... but that the small, rural, safety-net providers will fall further behind. This creates a divide that is not desirable. A free and open library could reduce this growing disparity."

PHIL DEERING | STRATIS HEALTH

0 clinical information resources currently available to every health professional.

220k licensed health professionals in MN who would benefit from equal access to MeHL resources.

144 MN hospitals employ 113,000 individuals who require quality health information to support patient care.

79 rural hospitals in MN have little to no access to quality health information.

35+ colleges and universities in MN educate our state's future healthcare workforce.

5million MN residents who could use MeHL resources to more fully engage in health decision-making.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

LIBRARIES

MeHL – FOR A HEALTHY MINNESOTA

24x7

ACCESS TO
EVIDENCE-BASED
CLINICAL RESOURCES



Evidence-based Care

MeHL will promote evidence-based care by providing a single point of access to a core set of clinical information resources that will be available from work, home, campus, or library 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

13 years

JUST 3 MILES CAN MEAN
A 13 YEAR DIFFERENCE
IN LIFE EXPECTANCY

Source: RWJF City Maps



Decreased Health Disparities

The high cost of licensed health resources creates a system of unequal access across Minnesota clinics, promoting disparities in health and health care. MeHL will ensure that Minnesota health professionals remain at the forefront of their practice so they can provide informed care for all.

301

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL
SHORTAGE AREAS

Source: MN Dept of Health



Recruitment & Retention of Health Providers

Rural Minnesota is disproportionately impacted by health professional shortages. MeHL will provide equal access to clinical information resources regardless of geographic location or institutional affiliation, thereby promoting recruitment and retention of our rural health providers.

1 in 3

U.S ADULTS GO ONLINE
TO DIAGNOSE A
MEDICAL CONDITION

Source: Pew



Informed Citizenry

MeHL resources will be made available to all of Minnesota's 5 million citizens. This will provide reliable, clinical-level health information to patients, their families and their friends so they can become engaged in the patient care partnership and make informed health decisions.

#6

MN RANKS AS THE
6th HEALTHIEST STATE
IN THE NATION

Source: United Hlth Foundation



Healthy Minnesota

MeHL will better position health providers, policy-makers, researchers, educators and students to provide evidence-based care, develop programs that improve health outcomes, teach students best practices, and reinforce quality of care in support of a healthy Minnesota.