

# Pharmacists

## Who is Big Sky Care Connect?

Big Sky Care Connect (BSCC), a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation, was established in 2018 by healthcare stakeholders to establish and operate a health information exchange (HIE) in Montana. The HIE enables the secure sharing of vital healthcare information to improve the speed, quality, safety, coordination, and cost of patient care.

## Why is the Health Information Exchange (HIE) important for pharmacists?

Montana pharmacists spend a fair amount of time obtaining necessary patient information to complete medication reconciliation following transitions of care and to clarify information on new or modified prescriptions. BSCC provides online access to comprehensive information about your patient's medication history along with pertinent medical information.

## How can my practice/organization benefit from using the HIE?

-  Improve transition of care:
  - Receive **event notifications** about your patients as they are admitted and discharged from the hospital or visit the emergency department.
  - Access to **discharge summaries** in BSCC's Provider Portal that provide important information to ease the patient's safe transition back to their home environment.
-  Enhance medication therapy management sessions:
  - Access to comprehensive **medication information** from DrFirst and BSCC participants (providers and payors) that includes prescribed, dispensed, and medication history
  - Access to **diagnoses** to confirm why medications were prescribed or changed
  - Access to **lab results** to confirm effectiveness of medications and compliance
-  Increase efficiency and improve patient/provider satisfaction:
  - Save time reduce faxing and phone calls to track down patient records so you have more time to spend with your patients

## What types of information can be shared to allow for collaboration with the BSCC?

BSCC will collect data from disparate EHRs then store, manage, and normalize the data so all Montana providers have quick and easy access to a longitudinal patient record. Available patient record information from participating facilities includes vital clinical data, recent discharge summaries, medication list, allergies, problem list, immunization, screening, advanced directives, and test results. BSCC is also working on connections to the eHealth Exchange (access to VA, DoD, other state HIEs) and the State of Montana for Public Health data and Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).

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