MDI FIC Awardee Spotlight:
Midwest Minnesota Medical Examiner’s Office
FHIR Interoperability Use Case

Medicolegal Death Investigation Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Implementation Collaborative (MDI FIC):

The MDI FIC is a collaborative learning environment where MDI offices, data sharing partners, vendors, and FHIR subject matter experts can work together to modernize MDI data practices and work towards interoperability. The goal of this collaborative is to create reusable tools and approaches that will reduce data entry efforts, reduce efforts exchanging data with others and increase access to information for office functioning. This project is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) overall data modernization initiative (COMEC - Modernizing Medical Examiner and Coroner Data Systems (cdc.gov)). The funding for MDI offices to participate in the MDI FIC was provided through a cooperative agreement between CDC and CDC Foundation.

Midwest Medical Examiner’s Office:

- Minnesota has a county-based mixture of coroner and medical examiners.
- Autopsies are performed onsite.
- MMEO serves approximately 1.8 million residents, roughly 32% of the state’s population

Contacts:

- Midwest Medical Examiner’s Office (http://www.midwestmedicalexaminer.com)
- CDC Collaborating Office for Medical Examiner’s and Coroners (COMEC) (MDI@cdc.gov)
- CDC Foundation (mdi_datasystems@cdcfoundation.org)

Description of Use Case:

The goal of the proposed project is to pilot and test FHIR interoperability with the Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Vital Records (OVR). This will allow Midwest Medical Examiner’s Office (MMEO) to expedite death certificates for families and facilitate faster data transfer to national/state health officials, including toxicology trends and infectious disease findings.

Name of Data Sharing Partner: Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Vital Records (OVR)

Name of Data Sharing Partner Vendor: In-House System

Brief Description of Data Sharing Partner Tasks/Activities: The Minnesota Department of Health OVR will work collaboratively with MMEO and VertiQ to build and test HL7-FHIR-based interoperability.

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