



WEDI Foundation

Rural Healthcare Initiative

Presented by

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WEDI Foundation

- ◆ The WEDI Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization formed exclusively for scientific and educational purposes to foster the improvement of healthcare by:
 - Conducting research
 - Providing information
 - Funding educational projects



Rural Health Initiative Overview

- ◆ The Rural Health Initiative (RHI) is a WEDI Foundation Pilot using technology to explore, deploy and measure solutions to meet these challenges in rural Georgia.



The Challenge

- ◆ Rural physicians, hospitals and patients are challenged by communications, travel distances, education opportunities and general connectivity.



Rural Health Initiative Life Cycle

- ◆ The Rural Health Initiative (RHI) will conduct a series of Pilots
- ◆ Each Pilot will be funded.
- ◆ Each Pilot will have specific goals.
- ◆ Each Pilot will have measurable outcomes.
- ◆ Each Pilot will be published.



Pilot Candidate Areas

- ◆ Transactions (Eligibility, Billing, Etc.)
- ◆ General Practice Management
- ◆ Medical Records
- ◆ Communications & Connectivity
- ◆ Regulation & Compliance
- ◆ “Best of Practice” Medical Guidelines



First Pilot – Rural Medicine

- ◆ Healthcare Screenings
- ◆ Study, measure and report:
 - Affordable and accessible technology available
 - Recommended screenings
 - Patient understanding
 - Access to medical screening resources
 - Compliance with screening recommendations



First Pilot - Partners

- ◆ Mercer University School of Medicine
- ◆ Morehouse School of Medicine
- ◆ Two acute care community clinics
- ◆ Several physician practices
- ◆ Two community health clinics



First Pilot - Management

◆ Management

- Kirby Godsey, PhD
- Louis Sullivan, MD, WEDI “Prime Mover”
- Ed Jones, Chairman, WEDI
- Tom Wagoner, Chairman, WEDI Foundation
- Jane Clark, PhD, RN, AOCN
- Alan Whorton, MPH
- Ernest Clevenger, MBA



First Pilot – Funding Candidates

◆ Foundations

- Georgia Healthcare Foundation

◆ Government

- Grants

◆ Industry

- Direct funding
- Cash-in-Kind