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A Path to Excellence: Key Components of an Evolving Best Practice Clinical Informatics Team

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BACKGROUND

- Health information technology holds the potential to transform the quality of care. Now, more than ever, it is imperative for highly functioning clinical informatics teams to actively exist within health care organizations.
- Evolving health care data and new technology, hospital expansions, technology upgrades, and network/regulatory initiatives all require hospitals to build strong and effective informatics teams.²
- Informatics brings value to health care facilities and is an integral part of growing, dynamic organizations.

TEAM OVERVIEW

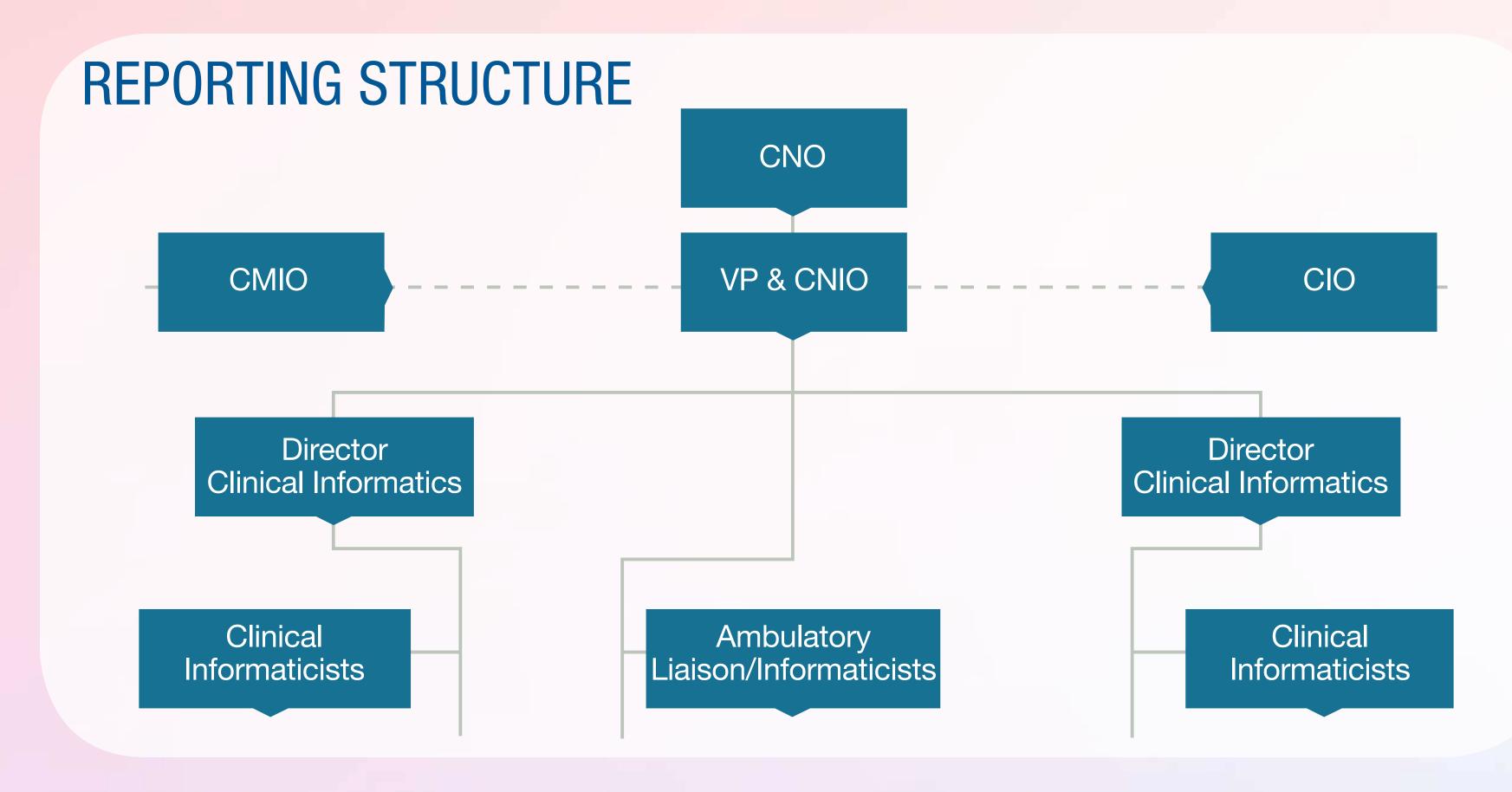
- Evolved since its inception in 1992
- Team consists of:

16 clinical informaticists (CIs)

- 14 nurses
- 2 allied professionals

Practice Setting:

-1,800+ bed, 8 campus, academic, community Magnet® hospital



KEY TEAM COMPONENTS



LEADERSHIP:

Team led by Chief Nursing Informatics Officer (CNIO) and 2 experienced directors

CNIO participates on Network Leadership Council.

COLLABORATION:

CNIO collaborates closely with Chief Informatics Officer (CIO) and Chief Medical Informatics Officer (CMIO) related to:

Planning and decision-making

Clinical Informaticists:

- Have collegial/respectful working relationships with analysts
- Collaborate with analysts to bring a build to fruition

REPRESENTATION:

Clinical Informaticists actively participate in:

- Information Systems Executive team
- All network-wide initiatives
- Daily leadership huddle
- Various Patient Care Services (PCS) councils and workgroups

GOVERNANCE:

InterProfessional Informatics Council (IPIC):

- Co-chaired by a Cl
- Collaborates with PCS Practice Council
- Addresses and approves all clinical, nonprovider documentation requests

FLEXIBILITY:

Team displays:

- Expected culture of role flexibility
- Adherence and accountability for aggressive project timelines

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

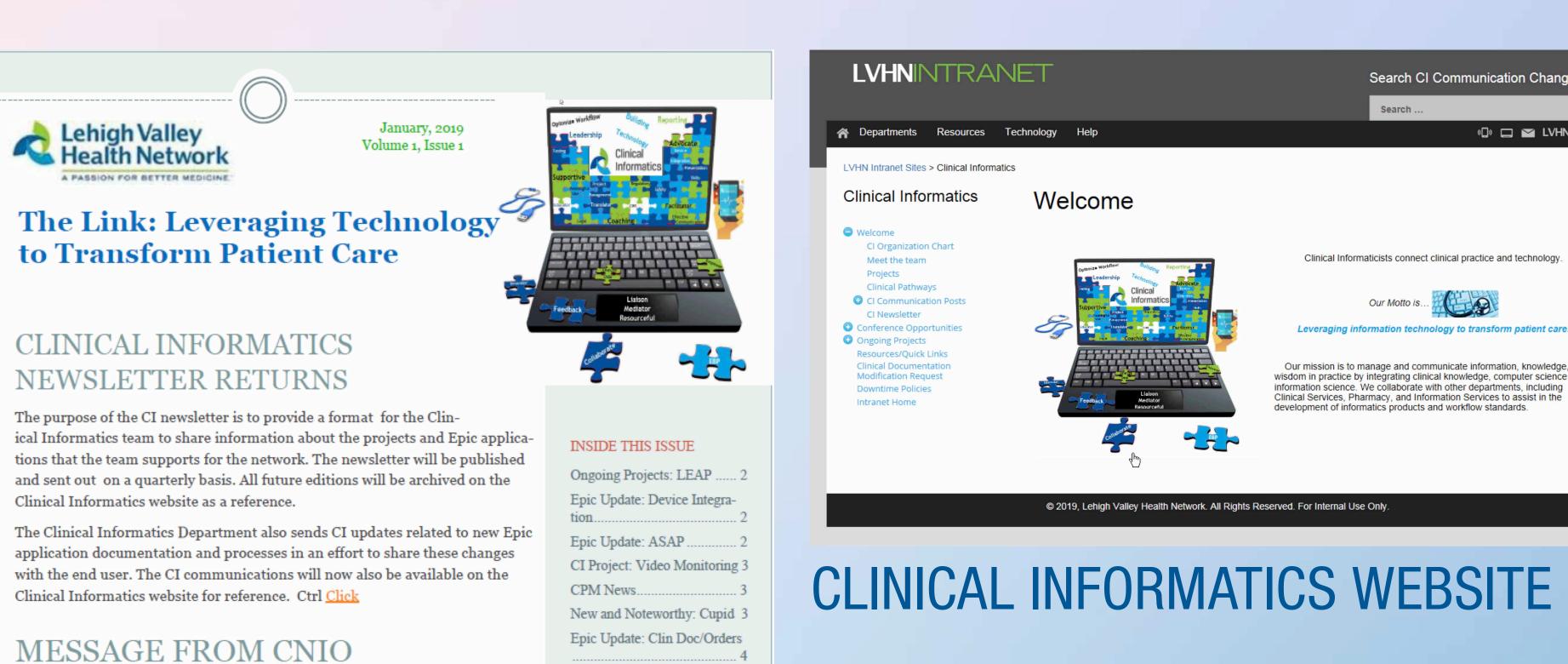
Team is encouraged to:

- Pursue specialty certification
- Obtain advanced degrees
- Present at regional/national conferences
- Publish in peer-reviewed journals

OUTCOMES

- 200+ successful implementations completed annually
- Ladder advancement and fellowship program implementation in near future
- Bi-monthly team meetings facilitated by Cls including:
- Conference learnings/research
- Project updates
- Cl and team successes

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CLINICAL INFORMATICS NEWSLETTER

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