# DIRECT MESSAGING

Direct Messaging is a method for secure transmission of PHI over the Internet. Direct messaging:

* allows users to communicate with other users within their own HIE and other health information networks
* uses an integrated Provider Directory, similar to an address book in an email client
* offers the ability to delegate a mailbox to another Direct user to send/receive messages for a different account.

To begin using Direct Messaging, select **Inbox** from the Application Dashboard.

