



Health IT Standards Committee Meeting

Meeting Notes May 26, 2010

[Meeting Agenda](#)

On May 26th, the Health IT Standards Committee (HITSC) hosted its 12th meeting. Dr. Blumenthal welcomed the group, and turned the meeting over to HITSC Co-Chair Jonathan Perlin, who reviewed the meeting agenda and discussed concerns amongst the Standards Committee regarding what was perceived as a lack of communication between ONC and the Standards Committee.

Key news items from this meeting:

- Doug Fridsma announced that ONC will schedule a standing meeting with HITSC Chairs Jonathan Perlin and John Halamka two times monthly.
- Doug Fridsma announced that 8 of the 11 contracts for the Standards and Interoperability (S & I) National Information Exchange Framework (NIEM) have been selected, and will be awarded once all 11 have been selected.
- ONC is seeking HITSC Review of the four essential work products created through the NHIN Direct Project. The review will be conducted by a "Tiger Team" of HITSC members with a strong privacy and security background.
- The Clinical Quality Workgroup announced a series of steps of collecting data to determine potential Meaningful Use Stage 2 Clinical Quality Standards, culminating with a report to the HITSC for consideration at the September meeting coupled with a request for public comments.
- White House Chief Technology Officer Aneesh Chopra confirmed the creation of the Enrollment Workgroup, with more details on the goals of the workgroup (see below).

ONC Update:

ONC Acting Director of the Office of Standards and Interoperability Doug Fridsma highlighted key objectives for ONC's standards activities.

- ONC Communication with the HIT Standards Committee
 - ONC Staff will meet bi-monthly with HITSC Chair Jonathan Perlin to update the HITSC membership on the status of key initiatives.
- S & I NIEM Framework Update
 - Eight of the eleven outstanding Requests for Proposal for the NIEM have been selected. The awards will be publically announced once the final three awards have been selected.
 - ONC is seeking HITSC feedback to ensure that the deliverables fit the policy recommendations from the Committees.
 - ONC will be providing copies of each RFP to the members of the HITSC as a follow up action item. The RFP's are now closed, and are not available to the public
- NHIN Direct
 - ONC's NHIN Direct Project Team has developed four contenders for coding real world solutions to the challenges created by Meaningful Use.
 - standards and service definitions
 - implementation guides
 - reference implementations
 - associated testing frameworks

- ONC is seeking HITSC Review of the four essential work products created through the NHIN Direct Project.
- The review will be conducted by a “Tiger Team” of HITSC members with a strong privacy and security background.
- ONC will also be seeking feedback and guidance from NIST (which has not been as active due to their activities surrounding EHR certification testing) and agencies who have health information systems in place, such as DoD. Nancy Orvis immediately offered to coordinate DoD input to NHIN Direct.

Clinical Quality Report Workgroup Report

Clinical Quality Co-Chair Janet Corrigan highlighted a timeline for the Standards Committee Clinical Quality Workgroup to develop and submit

- Currently, the Clinical Quality Workgroup is conducting an environmental scan of twelve healthcare systems and several selected registries. The focus of the scan is to determine which HIT tools facilitate rapid improvement without requiring implementation of other solutions. Those tools will be the focus of the 2013 Meaningful Use Quality Standards. Tools where HIT alone can't facilitate improvement and requires workflow changes will be the focus of 2015 quality standards.
- In the coming weeks, the Quality Workgroup will issue a request to vendors for a list of the quality measures that the vendors currently include in their electronic health record solutions.
- The Workgroup will review quality standards recommended in the Meaningful Use NPRM Public Comments.
- The July Quality Workgroup Meeting will focus on testimony from Beacon Community recipients on which measures are necessary for Meaningful Use Phase 2 and Phase 3.
- The Quality Workgroup will also work to make recommendations consistent with the HHS National Healthcare Reform Strategy and Priorities.
- The Quality workgroup will work in July and August to determine if any National Quality Forum measures currently being developed and considered meet the needs as determined by this feedback, as well as any measures that come to light in use by private facilities revealed in the environmental scan. Also, the workgroup may consider recommending that HHS fund rapid cycle quality measures development.
- The Workgroup will present the recommendations at the September HIT Standards Committee meeting and will also release a request for public comment on the recommendations.

Enrollment Workgroup Update

New Enrollment Workgroup Co-Chair Aneesh Chopra highlighted the passage of healthcare reform and the details of Section 1561 which calls for the HIT Policy and HIT Standards Committee to recommend standards that enable social services recipients to determine eligibility and enroll in expanded federal health programs or the new federal health insurance exchanges.

- S1561 of the Healthcare Reform Bill states: *Not later than 180 days after the enactment, the Secretary, in consultation with the HIT Policy and Standards Committees, shall develop interoperable and secure standards and protocols that facilitate enrollment in Federal and State health and human services programs through methods that include providing individuals and authorized 3rd parties notification of eligibility and verification of eligibility*
- The Enrollment Workgroup will develop recommendations for standards and protocols for electronic enrollment in Federal and state health and human service programs
- Workgroup focus areas include:
 - Electronic matching across state and Federal data
 - Retrieval and submission of electronic documentation for verification

- Reuse of eligibility information
- Capability for individuals to maintain eligibility information online
- Notification of eligibility
- The private sector co-chair is Sam Karp, Vice President of Programs, California Healthcare Foundation.

Privacy and Security Workgroup Update

- ONC Privacy and Security Officer Joy Pritts updated the Privacy and Security Workgroup on the new Privacy and Security Taskforce.
- The Privacy and Security Taskforce will work under the Health IT Policy Committee and has been directed by ONC to develop consistent privacy and security policy to be applied to all ONC initiatives.
- HITSC Privacy and Security Workgroup efforts to recommend standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria will abate pending policy decisions from the new Task Force
- **Coming Up**– **June 17, 10:00am-12:00pm ET**: Veterans Health Administration (VHA) pilot of HL7 Consent Directives and OASIS Cross-Enterprise Security and Privacy Authorization (XSPA) and eXtensible Access Control Markup Language (XACML) – John (Mike) Davis