



FACT SHEET

FY 2009 President's Budget Request and Healthcare IT

The President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2009 has been presented to Congress calling for priority action on four areas, including initiatives to improve the availability and affordability of healthcare, addressing public health and emergency preparedness requirements, strengthening human service programs, and advancing research agendas. The President's Budget Request includes over \$735 billion for Health and Human Services (HHS) programs, an increase of \$29 billion over FY2008.

Health Care IT Priorities for FY2009

Healthcare IT as a percentage of the overall federal IT commitment is expected to remain at approximately 10%. Program specific HHS-wide healthcare IT initiatives have a fiscal year 2009 budget request of \$117.8 million. The funds are broken down as follows:

- **\$66 million for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC):**
 - \$5 million increase over the \$61 million received in FY2007 and 2008
 - \$52 million decrease from the President's request from a year ago
- **\$45 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ):** Advance the use HIT to enhance patient safety (Clinical Decision Support initiatives, Quality improvement, Ambulatory Care initiatives)
- **\$3 million for the HHS Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation:** Funding independent assessments of electronic health record adoption and economic factors impacting clinician participation in EHR adoption
- **\$3.8 million for the CMS EHR Adoption Program:** Described as year 2 funds for the CMS demonstration project that will provide incentive reimbursements to providers in 12 areas of the U.S. Up to 100 provider groups in each area will be eligible to participate in the demonstration. Locations and application criteria are expected to be announced in Spring 2008 with a target start date of Summer 2008.