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## Interoperability Leading to Information Exchange

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### Inbox

#### Welcome to the HIMSS13 Issue of *Information Xchange*

Welcome to the HIMSS13 issue of *Information Xchange*. This edition of the eNewsletter will focus primarily on the education, exhibits and networking opportunities surrounding interoperability, information exchange and standards at the Annual Conference. HIMSS13 will feature dozens of general education sessions on standards, interoperability and information exchange. In this issue, we will highlight Pre-Conference Symposia and Workshops, as well as special events that may be of interest to our readers.

Most of these stories can be found in the Best Practices, Policy Pulse, Showcase Connection and Opinion sections of the eNewsletter.

In addition, we will, in this issue, continue to report on news and trends at HIMSS and throughout the industry.

HIMSS13 returns to New Orleans, March 3-7. [Attendee registration](#) is now open. HIMSS13 attendee registration includes entrance to all education sessions and the exhibit hall, the Welcome/Opening Reception on Sunday, March 3, and registration tote bag (while supplies last). The HIMSS13 website features all registration categories, registration for specialty conferences, registration for optional events such as workshops, symposia and the CPHIMS exams and review course, and discounted rates for a One-Day Pass and Wednesday Exhibit Hall Only Pass. In addition to registration, the HIMSS13 Hotel and Travel page is now available. Hotels are expected to fill up quickly, so attendees are encouraged to make hotel reservations early through [onPeak](#), HIMSS' official housing and travel bureau. In addition to making reservations online, attendees can contact onPeak at 877-517-3038.

More information on HIMSS13 can be found at the conference's [website](#), which will be updated regularly in the weeks leading up to the event.

#### Can't Make HIMSS13? Try HIMSS13 Online

If you are unable to attend HIMSS13 in person, take the second best seat by attending the online extension of the Annual Conference & Exhibition. [HIMSS13 Online](#) provides access to select portions of both live and on-demand events for only \$39. Participants can gain valuable information and engage with peers as they seek out practical solutions to the most demanding challenges in health information exchange. If you plan to attend HIMSS13 in person, add HIMSS13 Online to your registration to access highlights—during and after the show. The online extension's live hours include Tuesday, March 5; Wednesday March 6; and Wednesday, March 13. On demand sessions will be available through June 7.

#### Opinion

#### There Is Something for Everyone at HIMSS13

By JoAnn W. Klinedinst, CPHIMS, PMP, FHIMSS

For those of you who follow me in various social media outlets, my profile states that I have "responsibilities for all things surrounding lifelong learning, networking and engagement in health IT." To help you develop professionally, as well as to help me meet my responsibilities, one of the best ways is for you to attend the [2013 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition](#), which will be held in New Orleans, , March 3-7, 2013. Things have dramatically changed over the years, since my first HIMSS conference in San Antonio, Texas in 1995. I'm here to help you navigate the many opportunities, so that your experience is both exceptional and rewarding. Click the link above to learn more.

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## HIMSS Updated Interoperability & Standards Toolkit Now Available

HIMSS aims to give Society members the tools individuals and organizations need to understand strategies for interoperability and to employ appropriate healthcare information technology standards. Recently, the newly formed HIMSS Interoperability & Standards (I&S) Committee has made available a basic on-line toolkit to encourage the use of internationally recognized standards and industry best practices to develop and deploy interoperable healthcare IT systems. The goal of this toolkit is to provide information on

- policies that promote interoperability nationally and internationally;
- open source platforms and resources;
- interoperability use cases and best adoption practices of standards; and
- technological innovation important to the growing I&S Community.

To help us update these tools and keep resources current, the I&S Committee is currently recruiting volunteers. If you are interested in serving on the HIMSS I&S Toolkit and Web Resources Work Group, please contact the [staff coordinator](#). Click above to link the I&S Toolkit.

## Best Practices

### HIMSS13 HIE Symposium: Results-Driven Health Information Exchange

The HIMSS13 Pre-Conference [HIE Symposium: Results-Driven Health Information Exchange](#), on Sunday, March 3, will review how health information exchanges have progressed in the post-HITECH Act era and how HIEs overlap with national, state and local healthcare initiatives. Attendees will explore the landscape of private/public HIEs in the market and assess HIE value.

After attending this symposium, the participant should be better able to identify the intersection of public and private HIEs with HIX, Medicaid and other healthcare reform initiatives; recognize the lessons that have been learned in the HIE space in the last two years; identify the elements of a successful HIE; and distinguish the value that HIE brings to the patient.

The day-long Symposium begins with welcomes and introduction, and is followed by the opening keynote presentation by [Bruce D. Greenstein](#), Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. His presentation, [ONC State HIE Efforts and the Overall Industry, Including HIXs and Private HIEs](#), will provide audiences an understanding of the dynamic HIE market place and the various ways HIE is being accomplished; a deeper understanding of the national strategy for HIE; and information on how HIE is supporting other important health initiatives such as State Insurance Exchanges, ACOs, and other state and federal efforts.

Sessions that follow the keynote include [Patient Engagement](#), which will focus on real-world examples of a patient-engagement efforts and evaluate important lessons learned when engaging patients. [Value of an HIE Featuring a Large IDN](#) will explore the business drivers that encourages IDNs to exchange information; evaluate IDNs challenges in exchanging information outside their network; and discuss a real world payment reform initiative that an IDNs is involved in that encourages data exchange. [Changing HIE Landscape](#) will analyze the changing landscape of health information exchange; identify the challenges and opportunities of the new HIE market place and its implications for sustainability; and recognize the different strengths and weaknesses of the private run HIE versus the tradition public/private partnership exchanges. [State HIX Perspective](#) will discuss the public and private payers perspective on how HIX and HIE should intersect; and explore the ways HIX efforts are leveraging their state HIE infrastructure, and how HIX can help with HIE sustainability.

The Closing Keynote, [CMS Perspective on HIE](#), will be presented by [Jessica Kahn](#),



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### Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Dec. 12-13

[Privacy & Security Forum](#)

Jan 13-18, 2013

[HL7 Working Group Meeting](#)

Jan. 28-Feb. 2, 2013

[2013 IHE North American Connectathon and Conference](#)

March 3-7, 2013

[2013 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition](#)

[MPH](#), Senior Technical Director for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Kahn will analyze the trends in which states are using the 90-10 match to advance HIE; recognize how the various CMS initiatives could work together within a state to create sustainable HIE; and assess CMS's perspective of the HIE marketplace.

Click [here](#) to register for the HIE Symposium.

### **HIMSS13 Roundtable Sessions Explore Interoperability, Standards and Information Exchange**

Roundtables are highly interactive group sessions that create opportunities for in-depth learning through facilitator-led discussions on a variety of topics relating to health IT and management systems. Several HIMSS Roundtable session will be of interest to professionals involved with interoperability, standards and information exchange.

On Monday, March 4, [Health Information Exchange: Reality and Future](#), will identify the business and technical needs for health information exchange in support of Meaningful Use and the enablement of care coordination; compare the inherent strengths and challenges of the various enterprise EMR vendors, HIE vendors, specialty vendors (e.g., for e-prescribing and lab results) and payers, regarding their HIE capabilities in support of private and public exchanges; recognize how HIEs will increasingly be used to support repositories, registries, data warehouses and business intelligence/analytics including population health; identify the most important terminology and exchange standards that will be required for MU and for cross HIE exchange with regional, state and national HIE initiatives; and develop a roadmap for health information exchange success.

On Tuesday, March 5, [Stage 7—Leveraging Technology to Drive Transformational Change](#), will reveal real-world lessons learned for transforming care to improve quality, safety and efficiency in the clinical setting utilizing clinical decision support, data mining and advanced analytics. Also on Tuesday, [Proprietary vs. Third-Party vs. Standards-Based Device Integration: An Update](#) will assess the various approaches for achieving medical device integration, including vendors, third-party integrators, or standards-based approaches using IHE messages.

Click [here](#) to register.

### **HIMSS13 Pre-Conference Workshop: mHIMSS Roadmap—mHealth Guidance for Hospitals and Health Systems**

The HIMSS13 Pre-Conference Workshop, [mHIMSS Roadmap—mHealth Guidance for Hospitals and Health Systems](#), on Sunday, March 3, will explore strategies to integrate mobile/wireless technology into healthcare delivery through interactive break-out discussions on technology, policy, infrastructure, new care models, ROI, privacy/security, and standards/interoperability, all driven from the mHIMSS Roadmap. The day-long Workshop will describe how mHealth is and will change healthcare and what these changes mean for your organization; identify the necessary steps a healthcare organization must undertake to successfully harness the power of mobile technologies; and identify emerging trends and best practices for the use and adoption of mobile technology

Click [here](#) to register.

## **Showcase Connection**

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### **Interoperability Showcase™ Moves Up at HIMSS13**

A must-attend staple of the Exhibit Hall in past years, the HIMSS [Interoperability Showcase™](#) is moving. This year in New Orleans the Interoperability Showcase will be positioned in the center of the education rooms at HIMSS13 in order to allow easy access to the hands-on learning opportunities that the Interoperability Showcase provides. From Monday, March 4, through Wednesday, March 6, 2013, at La Nouvelle Ballroom—Level 2 in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, you can visit the Interoperability Showcase for an in-depth view of both federal and private interoperability initiatives that will lead to meaningful use of health

information in practice

For those new to the Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition, the Interoperability Showcase™ is a series of an interactive demonstrations of live clinical information systems that allow visitors to assume the role of patients and watch their personal health records move across multiple points of care. Despite intellectual property and competition in the market place, health IT vendors agree to collaborate to demonstrate standards-based interoperability. Involvement in the Showcase by vendors shows their dedication to making health information exchange a reality for healthcare providers around the world by using [integrating the Healthcare Enterprise \(IHE\)](#) profiles and other standards based tools in their solutions to electronically translate health information from system to system so that it can be used to more efficiently treat patients. The clinical demonstrations (aka, use case stories) span multiple patient care situations including emergency care, chronic disease care over time, and examples of care given to patients within a hospital setting.

Additionally, the Interoperability Showcase™ will host state of the art education sessions in the Showcase Theater and there will be numerous white papers and take aways for attendees to share with their colleagues once back home. New this year, the Showcase's education sessions and tours will offer continuing education units toward CPHIMS certification. Full session listings and more details about the HIMSS Interoperability Showcase™ will be available through the HIMSS Conference education site and [www.interoperabilityshowcase.org](http://www.interoperabilityshowcase.org).

### **Interoperability & Standards Networking Breakfast at HIMSS13**

The newly formed HIMSS [Interoperability & Standards \(&S\) Committee](#) will be hosting a networking breakfast on the Interoperability Showcase™ floor on Wednesday, March 6. The intent of this special event is to build and bring together the growing I&S Community at HIMSS13. Currently, there are plans for a panel of experts to engage with participants in an interactive educational session. In addition to this exciting session and networking with colleagues, there will also be an opportunity for interested attendees to volunteer for specific I&S Committee Work Groups and Task Forces. No additional registration fee is required for this breakfast, but there is limited space available. Please [e-mail](#) or call 312-915-9208 the Staff Liaison for the I&S Committee to make sure to reserve your spot for this event!

## **Policy Pulse**

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### **Visit ONC and FHA Area at HIMSS13 Interoperability Showcase™**

At HIMSS 2013 the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) and the [Federal Health Architecture \(FHA\)](#) collaborative are looking to highlight cutting-edge interoperable health information exchange, with a focus on ONC-related programs, including:

- [CONNECT](#)
- [Direct Project](#)
- [SHARP Program](#)
- [Standards & Interoperability Framework](#)
- [Beacon Communities](#)
- [State HIE Programs](#)
- [Nationwide Health Information Network \(NwHIN\) now eHealth](#) Exchange

### **ONC Activities Support Governance of Nationwide Health Information Exchange**

*By Dr. Farzad Mostashari, National Coordinator for Health Information Technology*

ONC issued a request for information regarding a potential governance mechanism for the nationwide health information network. Based on the comments and feedback we received from multiple stakeholders, ONC announced

in September that we would not be issuing federal regulations. Instead, we committed to launch a range of activities to support existing governance initiatives and advance governance goals of nationwide health information exchange: increase interoperability, decrease the cost and complexity of exchange, and increase trust among participants to mobilize trusted exchange to support patient care. Click the link above to read about some of the activities ONC is undertaking to promote emerging good governing practices within and across communities.

### **Subcommittee Examines Federal Efforts to Promote Health Information Technology**

The Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a [hearing](#) in November to examine progress on the development and implementation of interoperable technical standards and conformance testing procedures for health IT.

Witnesses at the hearing included Dr. Farzad Mostashari, National Coordinator, ONC; Dr. Charles H. Romine, Director, Information Technology Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Marc Probst, Chief Information Officer and Vice President, Information Systems, Intermountain Healthcare; Rebecca Little, Senior Vice President, Medicity; and Willa Fields, DNCs, RN, FHIMSS, Chair of the HIMSS Board of Directors, and Professor, School of Nursing, San Diego State University.

The hearing reviewed the activities of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in promoting interoperability through the development of technical standards for HIT, and examined the implementation of the HITECH Act.

Marc Probst, Chief Information Officer and Vice President of Information Systems, Intermountain Healthcare stated at the hearing:

“We must set a clear road map and support an exchange infrastructure and the adoption of standards that will make it easier to share health information so clinicians and patients have the information in the form and time they need it to make appropriate healthcare decisions. Presently, we lack a shared infrastructure and long-term plan to make this possible.”

Click the link above to learn more about the hearing.

## **Volunteer Exchange**

### **Annual Call for Committee Applications Open until March 1**

HIMSS opens its annual call for volunteers to serve on a committee for the 2014-15 fiscal years. Service on a HIMSS Committee—focused on specific settings and constituencies within health IT and key industry topics, is an excellent opportunity for professional development, networking and active engagement. Committee participation is open to all individual and corporate HIMSS Members who are not serving in other leadership positions within the Society and have been a member in good standing for at least the past 12 consecutive months. Members with questions regarding serving on a committee should e-mail [Joan Flagg](#) or call 734-477-0862.

### **Seeking Members for HIE Task Forces and Work Groups**

The HIMSS HIE Committee is seeking members to join a number of their task forces and work groups. Click the link above to learn more about these groups and how to join.

### **Interoperability & Standards Work Group Volunteers Needed**

By [Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson](#)

The Interoperability & Standards (I&S) Community is seeking volunteers for a number of new important teams. The Interoperability & Standards (I&S) Community is directed by the [HIMSS I&S Committee](#) which is charged with providing domain expertise, leadership and guidance for HIMSS activities,

initiatives and collaborations in the area of interoperability and standards leading to health information exchange. The mission of the Committee is to promote the development, implementation and dissemination of semantically interoperable, standards-based health IT systems. Committee activities are coordinated through work groups and task forces. Currently, expertise and input is needed on the following teams:

- [HIMSS Interoperability Policy Section \(HIPS\) Work Group](#)
- Enterprise Architecture (EA) Work Group
- I&S Section of the [mHIMSS](#) Roadmap (ISS mHealth) Work Group
- [I&S Toolkit](#) & Web Resource (Toolkit) Work Group
- [Health IT Standards](#) (Standards) Work Group
- Technical Information Exchange (Tech-IE) Work Group
- [Interoperability Definition Work Group](#) New!
- [Showcase](#) Work Group New!
- [Davies ID](#) for Interoperability (DID Interop) Work Group New!
- [Information Xchange eNewsletter](#) Task Force - in collaboration with [HIE Committee](#)
- I&S Podcast Task Force

If you are interested in volunteering please send a short bio and your full contact information to Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson at the e-mail link embedded in the byline above.

### **Information Xchange Call for Contributors**

By [Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson](#)

*Information Xchange* is seeking columnists to offer their expertise and opinions on interoperability and standards leading to information exchange. Columnists may submit content sporadically throughout the year or on a monthly basis. Of particular interest are columns on practical solutions within healthcare environments for integrating information across different systems; public policy promoting the use of electronic health information; trends on the evolution of health IT standards testing and deployment; technical specifications for interoperability; and innovative activities leading to health information exchange. If you have an idea for a column, please send a short abstract and your CV to Mary-Ellen Devitt Johnson at the e-mail link embedded in the byline above.

Note: The inclusion of an organization name, product or service in this publication should not be construed as a HIMSS endorsement of such organization, product or service, nor is the failure to include an organization name, product or service to be construed as disapproval.

*Information Xchange* features extended coverage of all aspects pertaining to interoperability and standards leading to health information exchange. Published on the first Thursday of the month, this newsletter provides the latest industry news, case studies and expert interviews. *Information Xchange* is a complimentary resource for HIMSS members, organizations, government agencies and anyone involved and interested in today's interoperability, standards and information exchange activities.

We hope you have enjoyed *Information Xchange*. If you and your colleagues would like to permanently subscribe to each and every complimentary edition, [click here.](#)

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