



NCVHS Testimony on Standards Linda Fischetti, RN, MS on behalf of Vish Sankaran, FHA Program Director

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Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT



Questions Asked

- What are the major recent achievements for health information technology (HIT) standards development, selection, and/or implementation? Describe the processes that enabled these achievements.
- What HIT standards, development, selection, and/or implementation challenges remain?
- What should the model be for the development, adoption, and implementation of HIT standards for the nation as a whole? Who are the players and who should be involved?



What are the major recent achievements for HIT standards **development**, selection, and/or implementation?

- Health Level 7 (HL7) Electronic Health Record (EHR)
 Technical Committee
 - EHR System Functional Model, Release 1, Chapter 5
 Information Infrastructure Functions dated February 2007
 - Certification Commission for Healthcare Information
 Technology (CCHIT) uses as bases for Ambulatory and
 Inpatient Certification Criteria
- HL7 Personal Health Record (PHR) Functional Profile
 - Draft Standard Trial Use, Jan 2009
 - Proposed for CCHIT PHR certification criteria



What are the major recent achievements for HIT standards **development**, selection, and/or implementation?

- HL7 Role-based Access Control (RBAC)
 - April 2008 ANSI approved HL7 RBAC
 Permission Catalog
 - HL7 approved project to update and extend financial and privacy consent directives
 - Intent to re-ballot SEP 2009
- OASIS/HITSP joint initiative for cross-enterprise profiles authorization profiling using SAML
 - Ballot closes 13 MAR 2009



What are the major recent achievements for HIT standards development, **selection**, and/or implementation?

Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) Interoperability Specifications (IS)

HITSP/IS08 Personalized Healthcare
HITSP/IS09 Consultations and Transfers of Care
HITSP/IS10 Immunizations and Response Management
HITSP/IS11 Public Health Case Reporting
HITSP/IS12 Patient-Provider Secure Messaging
HITSP/IS77 Remote Monitoring

*Approved by HITSP Panel December 2008



Standards, Specifications and Agreements for Secure Connections



Describe the processes that enabled these achievements.

- Federal agencies engage in voluntary SDO harmonization with industry
- Federal agencies actively participate in the organizational processes of the standards developers, selectors and implementers
- Federal Agencies Processes Looking Forward
 - Identify Business Priorities
 - Architect Solutions
 - Plan Investments
 - Implement solutions
 - Measure progress



What challenges remain for HIT standards development, selection, implementation?

- Absence of tooling to enable programmers to operationalize developed standards
- Current lack of common components across Standards Development Organizations (SDO)
 - Reference Information Model
 - Reference Terminology Model
 - Security/Trust Framework
 - Information Exchange Framework
 - Common Methodology for Developing and Implementing Standards

Resulting in a Plethora of Issues for HIT Standards...



FHA Federal Health Architecture





Who are the players and who should be involved?

- **Creators of Standards**
 - Standards Development Organizations (SDO)
 - Voluntary Consensus Standards Bodies (VCSB)
- Harmonizers of Standards
 - HITSP
- **Enforcers / Profilers**
 - Federal Government
- Users of Standards
 - Payors
 - Public and Private Consumers Healthcare Entities – Patients
- Providers

– Vendors

- Researchers
- * This is not an exhaustive list but reflects the many stakeholders that are players and should be involved.

FHA
Federal Health
ArchitecturePurpose: Federal HIT Standards OrganizationParticipation (FHITSOP)

- Provide invaluable in-kind resources to standards work
- Provide coordinated federal input for standards issues with cross-agency implications
- Represent federal needs in standards development
- Identify priority areas of interest related to standards participation





FHITSOP: 2009 Goals

Contribute to federal priorities as related to the Nationwide HIT agenda

Provide forum for interagency communication and collaboration

Provide position papers to federal liaisons for SDO meetings



Recommendations

- Support continued progress toward development, recognition, and implementation of common models, frameworks, and methodologies where appropriate.
- Support the implementation and maintenance of a Federal standards registry
- Support the implementation and maintenance of a national testing facility and associated equipment.
- Support continued interagency collaboration/coordination related to standards activities

