



## NCVHS Listening Session: Aug 25, Panel 2

### Nancy Spector, WEDI Board Chair



# WEDI – The Collective Voice of Health IT



- WEDI is the leading authority on the use of health IT to improve information exchange to enhance the quality of care, improve efficiency and to reduce costs of the health care system.
- WEDI was named in HIPAA as an HHS Advisor.
- Our mission as an industry convener, is to provide multi-stakeholder leadership and guidance to the nation's health care system on how to use and leverage the industry's collective technology, knowledge, expertise, and information resources to improve the administrative efficiency, quality, and cost effectiveness of health care information.
- Access our full NCVHS letter [here](#).
- Learn more about us and become a member at [www.wedi.org](http://www.wedi.org)



# Current Challenges with Standards and Process

# Challenges



Need for broader stakeholder involvement in standards development (esp. w/ business focus)

Protracted release of regulations

Lack of standards adoption flexibility (all or nothing approach)

Insufficient “trust” between providers and health plans

Lack of covered-entity status for vendors

National standards may not always apply to all health plans

Insufficient testing and piloting

Lack of federal funding for standards development and testing

Lack of clearly-  
defined ROI  
(\$/time/improved  
patient experience)

Stakeholder  
implementation  
cost

Stakeholder inertia  
(change is hard)

Variation in  
application of  
standards

# Improvement Opportunities: Standards and Process



## Prioritize missing transactions:

NCVHS should continue advocating for the following:

- X12 275 Electronic Attachments
- X12 999 Acknowledgement Transaction
- X12 277 Health Care Status Notification Transaction

## Adopt individual HIPAA transaction standards:

There may be a business need and clear ROI for an update to a specific standard (i.e., 006020 X12 278) but less clear value for other transactions

## Advance administrative automation:

WEDI strongly supports automation of administrative processes, especially for the leading industry challenge – prior authorization

FHIR-based API standards have the potential of increasing administrative automation.

WEDI strongly supports standards that increase automation and scalable processes that eliminate burden and waste, such as the work by Da Vinci and their resulting implementation guides.

WEDI supports the FHIR standards included in the prior authorization rule (now withdrawn).

NCVHS should explore how FHIR and API standards can augment current data exchange processes.



Real-world testing and piloting: Standards to be tested or piloted in a “real-world” environment. This will ensure that a new standard will work in the current business environment and build support within the health care community for adoption.

Demonstration of ROI: A comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of a new or revised standard or operating rule be completed to demonstrate ROI prior to any mandate.

Ongoing economic and clinical impact testing: On a periodic basis, testing should occur following adoption of a standard to better understand the costs and benefits to industry stakeholders.

Expand the HIPAA waiver process: We strongly support the waiver and report process and urge CMS to consider funding these testing efforts and expanding industry awareness of the waiver process.

# Moving Forward: Industry Collaboration and Consensus-Building

## We Need to Work Together to Fix the Broken “Knowledge Supply Chain”

- Identifying areas that require data to flow more efficiently, and then addressing those areas should be a priority for the NCVHS. Improving the knowledge supply chain through automation will lower costs and improve the care delivery system.

## Critical to Create a “Win, Win, Win” Environment

- Establish clear benefits for patients, providers, and health plans
- Showcase innovation and best practices
- Adopt federal requirements that drive positive change

“Connect-a-Thons” for  
administrative transactions

Federal financial awards for  
innovators

WEDI can serve as an industry convener  
and facilitator to effect positive change in  
data exchange processes



# Questions and Discussion

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