



# eHEALTH INITIATIVE

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## Health IT Standards Committee Meeting March 26, 2014

### Overview

The [Health Information Technology Standards Committee](#) (HITSC) held a virtual [meeting](#) on March 26, 2014, to provide the following presentations:

1. The Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) Updates.
2. ONC Voluntary 2015 Edition EHR Certification Criteria ("2015 Edition") Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM).
3. Review of the Health IT Policy Committee (HITPC) Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 3 Recommendations.

### Background

The Health IT Standards Committee is charged with making recommendations to the National Coordinator for Health IT on standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria for the electronic exchange and use of health information. In developing, harmonizing, or recognizing standards and implementation specifications, the Health IT Standards Committee will also provide for the testing of the same by the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST).

### Opening Remarks

Opening remarks were provided by Karen DeSalvo MD, MPH, MSc, National Coordinator for ONC. Dr. DeSalvo announced that the health IT community is in open season for both Meaningful Use Stage 3 rules and the Voluntary 2015 Edition Electronic Health Record (EHR) Certification Criteria. As the healthcare community reviews the new rulemakings, Dr. DeSalvo asked the committee to think through what will make sense to advance the health IT community in Meaningful Use and move forward with patient health and care.

### Presentations:

1. **ONC Updates** (*Dr. Doug Fridsma, Chief Science Officer & Director, Office of Science and Technology, ONC*)

Dr. Doug Fridsma [presented](#) a standards and interoperability (S&I) framework update with the goals of providing visibility into the breadth of ongoing activities and to introduce recent initiatives. During his presentation, Dr. Fridsma highlighted the following key points:

- **S&I Initiative Portfolio Snapshot**
  - Dr. Fridsma provided a multi graph view of 16 current S&I Initiatives and progress achieved to date. Reference slides 3 and 4 of the [S&I Framework Update](#) for additional detail.
- **New Initiative: Clinical Quality Framework (CQF)**
  - This new initiative was launched the week of March 24<sup>th</sup> with the goal of identifying and harmonizing the standards that promote integration between clinical decision support (CDS) and eClinical

Quality Measures (eCQM). Within the initiative, metadata identification, patient data model development, and logical expression language development are key components.

- The CQF initiative promotes wider visibility into standards under development and allows for implementation-based feedback leading to more robust specifications development.
- Standards harmonization work is currently underway in HL7 workgroups.
- To the extent possible, a goal is to pilot the standards and refine them accordingly.
- ***New Initiative: Prescription Data Management Program (PDMP) & Health IT (HIT) Integration***
  - The PDMP & HIT Integration Initiative is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) with the purpose of connecting the PDMP and health IT communities to standardize data format, transport, and security protocols for the exchange of patient controlled substance history information between PDMPs and health IT systems.
  - PDMP & HIT integration is approached from a safety perspective versus a law enforcement perspective.
  - The goal of the initiative is to have a suite of standards that assist in prescription drug information management.
  - Existing clinical standards must be mapped into PDMP community standards.

## **2. ONC 2015 Edition EHR Certification Criteria Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) (Steve Posnack, Director Federal Policy Division, ONC)**

Steve Posnack [presented](#) on the past, present, and future plans of the [2015 Edition NPRM](#) published on February 26, 2014. He mentioned that the Implementation Workgroup has taken the charge to evaluate the proposed changes in the NPRM and present it to the HITSC. A specific presentation date was not mentioned. The following key points were made during his presentation:

- ONC plans to produce three NPRMs for EHR certification in the next 4 years: 2015 Edition, 2017 Edition, 2018 Edition.
- ONC is developing more frequent EHR certification criteria in order to make the rulemaking procedure more nimble and to accommodate for public comments ahead of time.
- The more incremental rulemaking approach will lead to fewer changes between the NPRMs, allowing the industry to more easily achieve gap certification between each EHR Certification rulemaking.
- The 2015 Edition also serves as an advanced NPRM for what ONC plans to take on in the 2017 Edition by providing the opportunity for the community to respond to 2017 Edition topics in the 2015 Edition NPRM.

Dr. Fridsma concluded with an overview of specific highlights from the 2015 Edition. Below are the topics he covered:

- Lab orders & CLIA compliance

- Clinical Decision Support (CDS)
- Implantable Device List
- Transitions of Care
- Patient Population Filtering for CQMs
- Syndromic Surveillance
- Non-Percentage-Based Measures
- Transmission
- Changes to Certification policy overall:
  - Discontinue the “Complete EHR” certification
  - Non-MU EHR Technology Certification
- 2017 Edition topics open for consideration

**3. Health IT Policy Committee (HITPC) Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 3 Recommendations Update, Standards Task Force** (*John Halamka, MD, HITSC Chair; Chief Information Officer & Dean, Harvard Medical School*)

John Halamka, MD provided a brief review of the process used to update MU Stage 3 recommendations. During his [presentation](#), Dr. Halamka reviewed all MU Stage 3 criteria by category and noted three key measurements for each: (1) Provider Use Effort, (2) Standards Maturity, and (3) Development Effort. A list of MU Stage 3 categories and criteria are included below. For additional measurement detail, reference the presentation slides.

- **Improving Quality of Care and Safety:** CDS, Order Tracking)
- **Reducing Health Disparities:** Demographics/Patient Information
- **Improving Quality of Care and Safety:** Care Planning-Advance Directive, Electronic Notes, Hospital Labs, Unique Device Identifier (UDI)
- **Engaging Patients and Families in Their Care:** Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD), Secure Messaging, Visit Summary/Clinical Summary, Patient Education and View, download, transmit
- **Improving Care Coordination:** Summary of Care, Notifications, Medication Reconciliation
- **Improving Population and Public Health:** Immunization History, Registries, Electronic Lab Reporting, Syndromic Surveillance

Dr. Halamka ended the presentation by noting that CQM requirements should include a requirement to stratify one CQM report by a disparity relevant to the provider. Task force feedback indicated data collection for stratification could be difficult as it is obtained from multiple systems.

For all presentations and a recording of the meeting, visit the [HITSC meeting website](#). The [next HITSC meeting](#) will be held in person in Washington, DC on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 from 9:00am-3:00pm.