



## **eHealth Initiative (eHI) 2016 Government Affairs Retreat SUMMARY**

### **eHI Government Affairs Retreat: Policy and Practice in 2016**

eHI members and policy experts gathered in Washington on February 2, 2016 for the organization's Annual Government Affairs retreat.

#### **Goals**

Event goals included:

1. To expand understanding of and gain input on eHI policy and member priorities for 2016.
2. To share important, breaking intelligence on key HIT policy and regulatory issues.
3. To receive critical membership input on eHI's action agenda for policy engagement with Congress and the Administration.
4. To explore policy priorities and opportunities in the eHI *2020 Roadmap*.

Capital Hill and Administration guests shared the latest health care IT intelligence. **Government speakers included:**

- *Stuart Portman*, MPH, Professional Staff Member (Healthcare Legislative and Health IT Specialist), Office of the Honorable Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
- *Lauren Choi*, JD, Senior Advisor, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
- *Marissa Gordon-Nguyen*, JD, MPH, Health Information Privacy Policy Specialist, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- *Stephanie Devaney*, Project Manager, Precision Medicine Initiative, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- *Rob Anthony*, Health Insurance Specialist, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

#### **A wide range of topics were covered at the event such as:**

- 2016 Congressional agenda, health and HIT;
- The federal Precision Medicine Initiative (PMI);
- ONC current efforts;
- HHS Office of Civil Rights issuances related to health data and HIPAA;
- Overview of MACRA, MIPS and the future of alternative payment models (APMs); and
- Potential policy intersections: eHI's *2020 Roadmap*.

Power points are available which provide individual presentation highlights. Retreat participants also brainstormed about ways to increase eHI's policy influence and reach.

#### **Relevant documents highlighted during the retreat were:**

- S. 2511, *The Improving Health Information Technology Act* (<http://1.usa.gov/20DZmF0>)
- Precision Medicine Initiative (PMI) background and highlights (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/precision-medicine>)
- Launch of the National Cancer Moonshot initiative (<http://1.usa.gov/1WYb50e>)
- 45 CFR (164.524), Individual's right under HIPAA to access their health information (<http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/guidance/access/index.html#>)
- Background on MACRA, MIPS and the future of APMs (<http://go.cms.gov/1Gb6GDL>)

Retreat participants suggested the following in the brainstorming portion of the retreat:

- **Leverage eHI Best Practices for Policy:** Convene educational eHI Hill briefing that highlights impactful policy lessons in *2020 Roadmap* (interoperability and data access/use) and share best practice stories.
- **Delivery System Reform:** Draft forward-thinking paper or eHI position statement on delivery system (MACRA, APMs etc). Provide CMS best practice examples related to APMs.
- **Precision Medicine:** Identify relevant eHI priorities in Precision Medicine Initiative and related cancer moonshot. Quickly create outward messaging and identify collaborative opportunities with key government players.
- **Interoperability:** Design focused effort or messaging which examines the whys of interoperability (improved outcomes, quality measurement etc.)
- **Privacy and Security Gap Analysis:** Create white paper on current policy gaps at nexus of privacy, security, health data and policy, highlighting relevant *2020 Roadmap* recommendations and identified best practices.

eHI's Policy Steering Committee and Leadership will weigh and prioritize these recommendations. For more information on the retreat or eHI's 2016 policy agenda, e-mail Ticia Gerber at [ticia.gerber@ehidc.org](mailto:ticia.gerber@ehidc.org).