Healthcare Information
Technology Standards Panel

ANSI
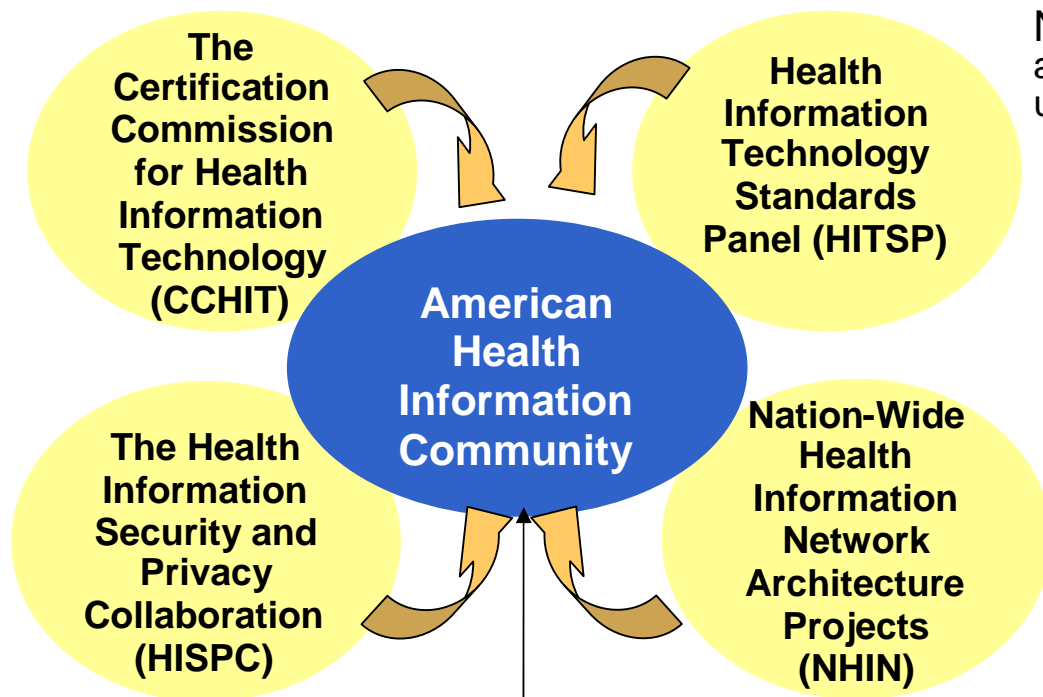American National Standards Institute

Standards Harmonization: The Role of NHIN Functional Requirements

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The National Health IT Effort

The Certification Commission for Health Information Technology (CCHIT)

Health Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP)

American Health Information Community

The Health Information Security and Privacy Collaboration (HISPC)

Nation-Wide Health Information Network Architecture Projects (NHIN)

- Chaired by HHS Secretary Leavitt
- Seven federal agency representatives
- Six health industry members
- One IT industry member (Intel)
- One employer (Pepsi)
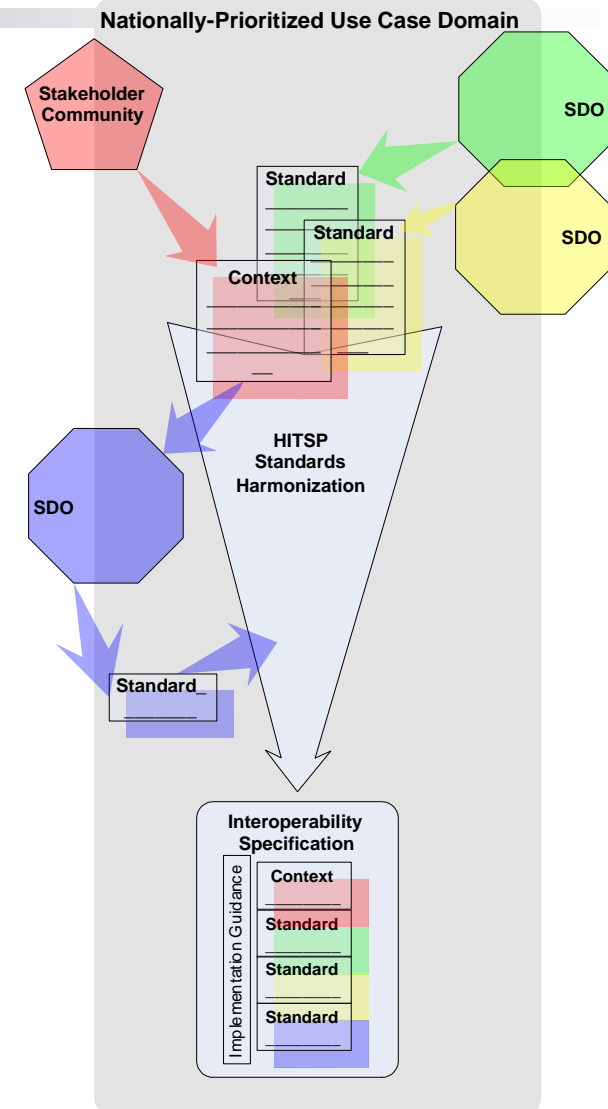- One state health department member (IN)

Nation-Wide coordination of policies, resources and priorities – ONC Initiatives and Contracts for unifying regions

- **The AHIC Community serves as hub for identifying breakthrough opportunities**
- **CCHIT focuses on developing a mechanism for certification of health care IT products**
- **HITSP bringing together all relevant stakeholders to identify *appropriate IT standards***
- ***HISPC is a partnership focused on addressing variations in business policy and state law that affect privacy and security***
- **NHIN focuses on interoperability pilots starting in 2006**

A few terms to describe the process

- Harmonization - the selection of standards most appropriate to support specific events, actions and actors in a Use Case

- Context – the unique requirements of a specific actor within a Use case

- Gap - missing or incomplete standards that are required to support events in a Use Case

- Overlap - Overlaps refer to instances where some or all of the requirements are met by multiple standards.

Nationally-Prioritized Use Case Domain

Stakeholder Community

SDO

SDO

SDO

Standard

Standard

Context

HITSP Standards Harmonization

Standard_

Interoperability Specification

Implementation Guidance

Context

Standard

Standard

Standard

Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel

- **The HITSP is a group organized to harmonize the standards used to exchange health data in the United States**
  - The Panel brings together experts from across the health care IT community – from consumers to doctors, nurses, and hospitals; from those who develop healthcare IT products to those who use them; and from the government agencies who monitor the U.S. health care system to those organizations who are actually writing the standards
  - The Panel's activities are led by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a not-for-profit organization that has been coordinating the U.S. voluntary standardization system since 1918
  - Cooperative partnerships have been and are being developed between and among certain standards developers

Membership and Board Representation

- A total of 155 organizations participate in HITSP representing
  - 17 Standards Development Organizations
  - 114 non-SDOs such as clinicians, providers, safety net providers, vendors, purchasers, payers, public health professionals, and researchers
  - 15 government organizations
  - 9 consumer organizations
- The HITSP Board of Directors also represents multiple stakeholders
  - 8 representatives from SDOs
  - 9 representatives from non-SDOs
  - 4 representatives from government appointed by ONCHIT
  - 2 representative from consumer organizations

HITSP Panel Process

- AHIC Working Groups, NHIN contractors or other customers prepare a Harmonization Request
- HITSP Technical Committees analyze requirements, identify candidate standards, and highlight standard gaps and overlaps
  - ➤ Gaps are forwarded to SDOs for their guidance as to emerging candidate standards or new standards requirements
  - ➤ Overlaps are resolved through SDO interactions
- HITSP selects the final set of standards
- The standards recommended by the Technical Committees are discussed and ratified by the HITSP panel

HITSP Panel Process

- Technical Committees work with SDOs and other groups to produce implementation level guidance

- It may be that certain aspects of implementation guidance, especially when multiple SDOs are involved, will be created by other groups for HITSP

- HITSP work products are delivered to AHIC for their endorsement

- CCHIT will include functional criteria for interoperability based on HITSP implementation guides in its certification work

Tier 1 Appropriateness Criteria

Suitable for purpose

Organization and process

Costs

Life cycle maturity

Tier 2 Criteria as Filters

SUITABLITY

COMPATIBILITY

PREFERRED STANDARDS CHARACTERISTICS

PREFERRED STANDARDS DEVELOPER ORGANIZATION and PROCESS

TOTAL COSTS and EASE of IMPLEMENTATION

September HITSP Deliverables

- In September HITSP will deliver specific implementation level guidance – "Interoperability Specifications" for four AHIC breakthrough areas

- Interoperability specifications will:
  - Define the standards and specific implementation context for those standards
  - Describe specific value sets for unambiguous data exchange and system to system interaction
  - Provide the necessary instructions to implement the specific standards in commercial and self-developed systems

The Role of NHIN Functional Requirements

- Architecture and Context

- Building Blocks

- Models for Harmonization
  - Mapping of standards which have different levels of granularity
  - Preferred standards and evolution over time
  - Unification
- Testing scenarios

Questions and Answers

Dr. Halamka

For more information:

www.hitsp.org