The Office of the National Coordinator for
Health Information Technology

Overview:

Federal Health IT Strategic Plan

2011-2015

Federal Health IT Vision and Mission

❖ **Vision:** A health system that uses information to empower individuals and to improve the health of the population

❖ **Mission:** To improve health and health care for all Americans through the use of information and technology

Federal Health IT Principles

In developing and executing the federal health IT strategy, the government strives to

❖ **Put individuals and their interests first**

❖ **Be a worthy steward of the country's money and trust**

❖ **Support health IT benefits for all**

❖ **Focus on outcomes**

❖ **Build boldly on what works**

❖ **Encourage innovation**

Federal Health IT Strategic Plan: 2011 – 2015

Better Technology → **Better Information** → **Transform Health Care**

Goal V: Achieve Rapid Learning and Technological Advancement

Goal IV: Empower Individuals with Health IT to Improve their Health and the Health Care System

Goal III: Inspire Confidence and Trust in Health IT

Goal II: Improve Care, Improve Population Health, and Reduce Health Care Costs through the Use of Health IT

Goal I: Achieve Adoption and Information Exchange through Meaningful Use of Health IT

Federal Health IT Strategic Plan Overview

Recent legislation has established an agenda and committed significant resources for health IT. The updated Federal Health IT Strategic Plan is ONC's plan, developed in collaboration with other federal partners, for realizing Congress and the Administration's health IT agenda.

Goal I, "Achieve Adoption and Information Exchange through Meaningful Use of Health IT," discusses the centerpiece of the government's health IT strategy over the next five years. "Meaningful use" is aimed at widespread adoption and information exchange in its first two stages, and will then build to improved health outcomes in the third stage.

Goal II, "Improve Care, Improve Population Health, and Reduce Health Care Costs through the Use of Health IT," discusses the specific ways health IT is contributing to the goals of health care reform: improved care, improved population health, and reduced per capita costs of health care. Widespread adoption of EHRs, information exchange, quality improvement initiatives, and health care reform pilots are required to implement The Affordable Care Act.

> ## Spotlight on Health Outcomes
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> *The Strategic Plan's health IT goals have the potential to modernize care delivery and can support the **National Health Care Quality Strategy and Plan.***

Goal III, "Inspire Confidence and Trust in Health IT," focuses on government efforts to update its approach to privacy and security issues related to health IT and to build greater confidence and trust in EHRs and health information exchange among providers and the public.

Goal IV, "Empower Individuals with Health IT to Improve their Health and the Health Care System," discusses how the government is designing health IT policies and programs to meet individual needs and expectations, providing individuals with access to their information, helping to facilitate a strong consumer health IT market, and better integrating individuals and clinicians' communications through health IT.

Goal V, "Achieve Rapid Learning and Technological Advancement," focuses on demonstrating ways health IT and meaningful use can enable innovation and appropriate use of health information to improve knowledge about health care across populations. In the long run, the government is pursuing a vision of a "learning health system," in which a vast array of health care data can be appropriately aggregated, analyzed, and leveraged using real-time algorithms and functions.

Development of the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan

The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, passed as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, mandated that ONC, in consultation with other appropriate agencies, update the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan which was originally released in June 2008. In doing so, ONC's process for obtaining input included working collaboratively with the public and private sectors, as well as gathering input from current policy and regulations.

At its core, the plan leverages the work of the Strategic Plan workgroup of the HIT Policy Committee, a Federal Advisory Committee to ONC. The workgroup devised a strategic plan framework that was submitted to the Health IT Policy Committee which in turn submitted this recommended approach for consideration to the National Coordinator. This framework served as a key input for consideration as ONC wrote the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan.

Due to the diverse scope and multi-agency nature of the plan, it was essential to engage the federal health community in various ways during the plan's development and refinement.

ONC conducted interviews and conversations with representatives from key federal agencies and offices in order to create a cohesive and integrated health IT plan across the federal government. ONC looked to these federal agencies and leaders for valuable feedback on drafts of the plan, and intends to continue this collaboration as the plan advances in the future.

ONC actively sought public input into the plan via its Health IT Blog and hosted a consumer working group discussion with health IT leaders in the public and private sectors to gather input in developing its consumer strategy.

The Federal Health IT Strategic Plan was also developed with the crucial understanding that several policies and regulations have critical implications pertaining to the current and future state of health IT.

For more information and to read the

Federal Health IT Strategic Plan in its entirety,

please visit http://healthit.hhs.gov/StrategicPlan.