




Selected Opportunities for Engagement April 28, 2012

Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)

- **CMS and ONC due May 7, 2012.** Meaningful Use Stage 2 – Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) Standards and Certification Criteria for Meaningful Use Stage 2 – Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)
- **Obama Admin seeks input on human genome sequence data.** The Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues is requesting public comment on the ethical issues raised by the availability of large-scale human genome sequence data, with regard to privacy and data access and the balancing of individual and societal interests.
<http://bioethics.gov/cms/sites/default/files/news/Federal%20Register%20Notice%20-%20Request%20for%20Information.pdf>) The Commission is looking for comments relating to the policies, practices and perspectives on issues of privacy and data access as they relate to the integration of large-scale human genome sequencing into research and clinical care, including patient access. See: <http://bioethics.gov/cms/node/676>
- **DHHS Announces Proposed Delay of ICD-10.** On April 17, 2012 DHHS published the proposed rule that would delay the compliance date for ICD-10 from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014. The ICD-10 compliance date change is part of a proposed rule that would adopt a standard for a unique health plan identifier (HPID), adopt a data element that would serve as an “other entity” identifier (OEID), and add a National Provider Identifier (NPI) requirement. There is a 30 day comment period. The Proposed rule is available at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-04-17/pdf/2012-8718.pdf> . More information about ICD 10 is available from CMS at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/index.html?redirect=/ICD10/>
- **AHRQ Plans to Create a Registry of Registries.** AHRQ has released a request for public comment about its intent to create a central point of collection for information about patient registries, the Registry of Patient Registries (RoPR) helps to make information regarding quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of health services (and patient registries in particular) more readily available and centralized. The primary goal of this




project is to engage stakeholders in the design and development of a RoPR database system that is compatible with ClinicalTrials.gov. For more information see: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-04-26/html/2012-10009.htm>

Meetings

- **FDA to Convene Inaugural Patient Network Annual Meeting.** The conference will be held on Friday, **May 18, 2012** at the FDA White Oak Campus in Silver Spring, MD 20993. As the agenda is finalized and speakers are confirmed, they will be added to the meeting website. For the latest information about the event, visit the meeting website. Please also see the Federal Register Notice for the questions that the agency hopes to have answered: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2012-09418>.
- **HDI Forum III: The Health Datapalooza.** The Health Data Initiative (HDI) Forum is a public-private collaboration that encourages innovators to utilize health data to develop applications that raise awareness of health system performance and spark community action to improve health. The 2012 Forum is the third annual event and will be held on **June 5 and 6, 2012** in Washington, DC. See www.hdiforum.org for more information.
- **NIST and OCR Announce Conference: Safeguarding Health Information: Building Assurance through HIPAA Security.** The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) are co-hosting the 5th annual conference Safeguarding Health Information: Building Assurance through HIPAA Security on **June 6 & 7, 2012** at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. Registration information is available at: <http://www.nist.gov/itl/csd/hipaasec.cfm>

Funding Opportunities

- **NSF-NIH BIGDATA initiative.** NSF and NIH will be hosting a webinar for people interested in applying for the recent NSF-NIH BIGDATA initiative entitled “Core Techniques and Technologies for Advancing Big Data Science and Engineering (BIGDATA).” <http://www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=CISE>. This webinar is designed to describe the goals and focus of the BIGDATA solicitation, help investigators understand its scope, and answer any questions potential Principal Investigators (PIs) may have. The Webinar will be held from 11am to noon EST on **May 8, 2012**. Questions about the



solicitation can be submitted in advance or during the webinar to bigdata@nsf.gov. The link also provides access to the solicitation itself and to NIH-specific information.

- **ONC Issues Patient Safety App Challenge.** The "Reporting Patient Safety Events Challenge" asks multi-disciplinary teams to develop an application that facilitates the reporting of patient safety events, whether implemented in hospital or ambulatory settings. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-04-11/html/2012-8758.htm> To register for this challenge participants should: Access the www.challenge.gov Web site and search for the "Reporting Patient Safety Events Challenge". The contest, **runs through July 23**, offers a \$50,000 first prize, as well as \$15,000 and \$5,000 prizes.

Reports and Letters

- **Senator Whitehouse Releases Report on ACA and HIT.** According to a report for the Senate Committee of Health Education Labor, if the U.S. Supreme Court rules that the entire Accountable Care Act (ACA) is unconstitutional it would also hamper health information technology. The report on ACA's impact on health reform was prepared by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.). See <http://whitehouse.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Health%20Care%20Delivery%20System%20Reform%20and%20The%20Affordable%20Care%20Act%20FINAL2.pdf>
- **Congress Sends Letter to FDA and FCC about Wireless Health and Medical Apps.** Six members of the US House of Representatives sent a letter to the FDA and FCC that explains the importance of wireless health devices and medical apps, cautions against slow and inconsistent regulations, and asks for a progress report on how the two regulatory bodies are working together to co-regulate these technologies. See: [http://blackburn.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Letter from Congress to FDA and FCC - 3Apr2012.pdf](http://blackburn.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Letter%20from%20Congress%20to%20FDA%20and%20FCC%20-%203Apr2012.pdf)
- **NeHC Releases Report on Health Information Exchange.** National eHealth Collaborative (NeHC) is a public-private partnership that was established through a grant from the ONC to build on the accomplishments of the American Health Information Community (AHIC), a federal advisory committee to the DHHS) until 2008. The report entitled, Health Information Exchange Roadmap: The Landscape and a Path Forward is available at <http://www.nationalehealth.org/hie-roadmap> .
- **Administration unveils a "Consumer Privacy Bill of Rights.** The Obama Administration unveiled a "Consumer Privacy Bill of Rights" as part of a comprehensive blueprint to protect individual privacy rights and give users more control over how their information



is handled. This initiative seeks to protect all Americans from having their information misused by giving users new legal and technical tools to safeguard their privacy.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/02/23/fact-sheet-plan-protect-privacy-internet-age-adopting-consumer-privacy-b>

- **FTC Issues Final Commission Report on Protecting Consumer Privacy.** The Federal Trade Commission, the nation's chief privacy policy and enforcement agency, issued a final report setting forth best practices for businesses to protect the privacy of American consumers and give them greater control over the collection and use of their personal data. The FTC also recommends that Congress consider enacting general privacy legislation, data security and breach notification legislation, and data broker legislation. <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2012/03/privacyframework.shtm>
- **ONC Announces Availability of Health IT Teaching Materials.** ONC announced that an enhanced set of 20 curriculum components is now available to the public at no cost, including all institutions of higher education nationwide and internationally. To obtain the materials, go to <http://www.onc-ntdc.org> or <http://www.onc-ntdc.info> to set up a profile and download the components.