



**national partnership
for women & families**

Because actions speak louder than words.



Health IT Policies and Standards:

*Overview of federal
approach*

July 1, 2009

**Christine Bechtel
Vice President**

Summary

- ~ National Partnership overview
- ~ HIT Policy Committee
 - Charge & duties
 - Members
 - Relationship with Standards committee
 - Workgroups
 - Milestones
- ~ Meaningful use
 - Consumer view

The National Partnership

- ~ Nonprofit organization with more than 35 years experience working on issues important to women and families.
 - National level, as well as in states and communities
- ~ Our Priorities:
 - Improve access to quality and affordable health care
 - Promote fairness in the workplace
 - Advance policies that help women and men meet the dual demands of work and family.



Consumer Partnership for eHealth (CPeH)

~ Coalition of consumer, patient, and labor groups

- Over 30 National and State members

~ Milestones:

- Consumer Principles for HIT – 2006
- Wired Act 2007, 2008
- HITECH 2009
- Consumer Pathway for Meaningful Use of HIT – 2009



HIT Policy Committee

~ Multi-stakeholder federal advisory committee

- Governed by FACA

~ Charge:

- Recommend to the National Coordinator a policy framework for the development and adoption of a nationwide health information infrastructure
- Recommend order of priority for development, harmonization and recognition of standards, specifications and certification criteria
- Serve as forum for participation of broad range of stakeholders

HIT Policy Committee

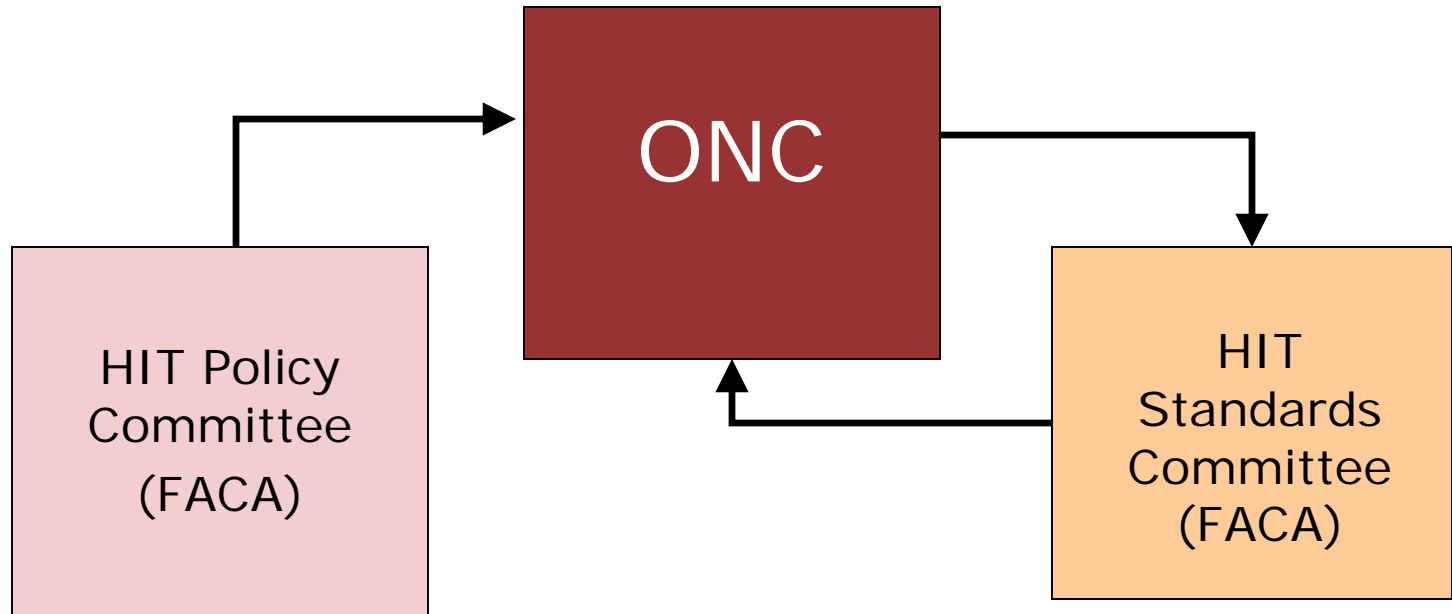
- ~ Make recommendations on HIT infrastructure, including some specific areas for standards:
1. Technologies that protect privacy and security
 2. Infrastructure for use and exchange of health information
 3. Use of certified EHR for each person in the U.S. by 2014
 4. Technologies that allow for an accounting of disclosures
 5. Use of certified EHRs to improve the quality of health care
 6. Technologies that render information unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals
 7. Use of technology to collect data on race, ethnicity, language and gender (to reduce disparities)
 8. Technologies that address the needs of children and other vulnerable populations

HIT Policy Committee Members

- ~ David Blumenthal, MD (chair) – ONC
- ~ David Bates, MD – Brigham and Women’s Hospital
- ~ Christine Bechtel – National Partnership for Women & Families
- ~ Neil Calman, MD – Institute for Family Health
- ~ Richard Chapman – Kindred Health Care
- ~ Adam Clark, PhD – Lance Armstrong Foundation
- ~ Arthur Davidson – Denver Public Health Department
- ~ Connie White Delaney, PhD, RN – University of Minnesota School of Nsg
- ~ Paul Egerman – Congressional Appointee, businessman
- ~ Judith Faulkner – Epic Systems Corp.
- ~ Gayle Harrell – Florida House of Reps
- ~ Charles Kennedy – WellPoint, Inc.
- ~ David Lansky – Pacific Business Group on Health
- ~ Frank Nemec, MD – Congressional Appointee
- ~ Marc Probst – Intermountain Healthcare
- ~ Latanya Sweeney, PhD – Carnegie Mellon University
- ~ Paul Tang, MD – Palo Alto Medical Foundation
- ~ Scott White – 1199 SEIU Training and Employment Fund
- ~ Michael Klag, MD – Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health
- ~ Deven McGraw – Center for Democracy and Technology



Relationship of Policy and Standards Committees



HIT Policy Committee Workgroups

- 1. Meaningful Use**
- 2. Health Information Exchange**
- 3. Certification and Adoption**

Some Key Milestones

- ~ Released draft-definition of meaningful use
6/16/09
- ~ Next Meeting 7/16/09
 - Finalize Meaningful Use recommendation
- ~ Definition to go through rule-making process (notice of proposed rule making from CMS) this summer
- ~ Interim final rule issued by end of year on standards, implementation specs and criteria

Framework for Meaningful Use

- ~ Improving quality, safety, efficiency, and reduce health disparities
- ~ Engaging Patients and Families
- ~ Improving Care Coordination
- ~ Improving population and public health
- ~ Ensure adequate privacy and security protections for PHI

Consumer View of Meaningful Use

PATIENT-CENTERED CARE

- ~ Care is comprehensive, coordinated, individualized and planned
- ~ Patients, caregivers, and providers are partners, making informed, shared decisions
- ~ Transitions between settings of care are smooth, safe, effective and efficient
- ~ Patients can get care when & where they need it
- ~ Care is routinely assessed and improved
 - Experience of care
 - Overall quality
 - Disparities reduction

Consumer Pathway at: www.nationalpartnership.org/hit



Consumer View of Meaningful Use

- ~ Will it lead to improvements in their health status?
- ~ Will it make the health care experience better?
- ~ Will it help patients/consumers reach their health goals?

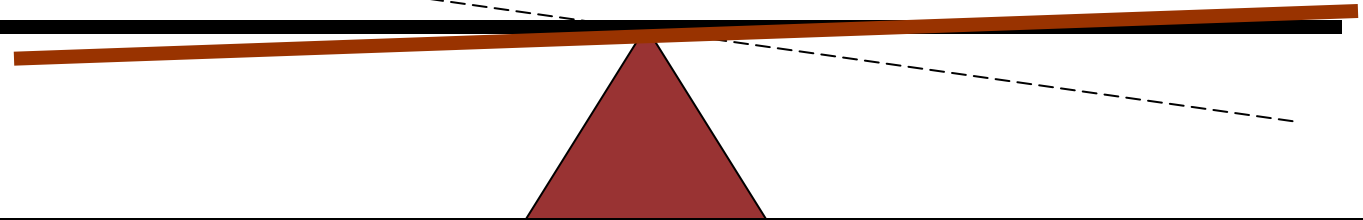
Key issues in policy discussions:

- ~ Access to care when and where consumers need it through innovative use of technology
- ~ Access to useful and actionable information using electronic means
 - Driving the market to produce tools to help consumers use information in ways that matter to them
- ~ Transparency of data – uses, who has access, reliability and accuracy of information
- ~ Implementation & enforcement of privacy laws

Balancing Expectations

- Urgency of health reform
- Outcomes improvement
- **Regional Ext. Centers**
- **Provider incentives**

- Currently available EHR capabilities
- Implementation time
- Small practice realities



Availability of Technical Assistance and Exchange Capabilities



thank you

Christine Bechtel

Vice President

202-986-2600

www.nationalpartnership.org