



## Federal HIT Leadership, Policies, and Standards

- **Establishes the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for HIT. Responsible for**
  - **Endorsing HIT standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria**
  - **Coordinating HIT policy**
  - **Updating, publishing, and maintaining the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan**
  - **Creating or recognizing a program or programs for the voluntary certification of health information technology**
  - **Appoint a Chief Privacy Officer**

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Protecting and promoting the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin

5/19/09

The ONC was originally created through an Executive Order under President Bush's administration, so the ARRA officially establishes this office under the law within the Department of Health and Human Services.

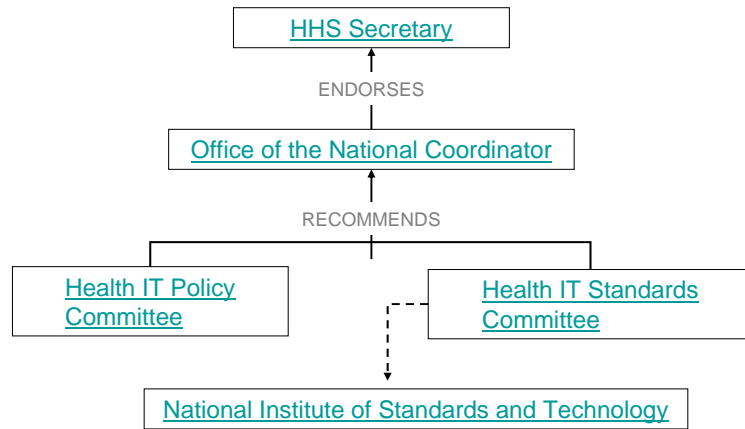
The purpose of the ONC is to promote the development of a nationwide health information technology infrastructure that allows for the electronic use and exchange of information and does all of the following:

- “(1) ensures each patient's health information is secure and protected in accordance with applicable law;
- “(2) improves health care quality, reduces medical errors, reduces health disparities, and advances the delivery of patient-centered medical care;
- “(3) reduces health care costs resulting from inefficiency, medical errors, inappropriate care, duplicative care, and incomplete information;
- “(4) provides appropriate information to help guide medical decisions at the time and place of care;
- “(5) ensures the inclusion of meaningful public input in such development of such infrastructure;
- “(6) improves the coordination of care and information among hospitals, laboratories, physician offices, and other entities through an effective infrastructure for the secure and authorized exchange of health care information;
- “(7) improves public health activities and facilitates the early identification and rapid response to public health threats and emergencies, including bio-terror events and infectious disease outbreaks;
- “(8) facilitates health and clinical research, and health care quality;
- “(9) promotes early detection, prevention, and management of chronic diseases; and
- “(10) promotes a more effective marketplace, greater competition, greater systems analysis, increased consumer choice, and improved outcomes in health care services.

The ONC will perform the duties listed on the slide to achieve its purpose. (Jun 3, 08 strategic plan has to be updated)

As the name implies, the ONC is responsible for coordinating the Department's HIT policy and programs with other relevant executive branch agencies to avoid duplication and to ensure agencies are undertaking HIT activities primarily in their areas of greatest expertise and technological capability.

# Federal HIT Policy and Standards Process



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5/19/09

Adopt initial set of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria by December 31, 2009. Federal HIT standards and implementation specifications will be applicable to all federal agencies implementing, acquiring, or upgrading HIT systems used to exchange PHI between agencies and with non-Federal entities and will also apply to Federal contracts or agreements with private entities, such as providers and health plans

The HIT Policy Committee recommends policies relating to a national IT infrastructure and recommends priorities for the development, harmonization, and recognition of standards, specifications, and certification criteria to the ONC.

The HIT Standards Committee recommend standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria for the electronic exchange and use of health information to the ONC.

The ONC receives the recommendations and decides whether to endorse them to the Secretary.

The Secretary reviews the endorsements and decides whether to adopt them no later than 90 days from receipt.

Lot of policy work to be done: rule-making in key areas (i.e., “certified HIT technology,” “meaningful EHR user,” privacy and security)