The American Medical Association shares the principle that to achieve an open, connected care for our communities, we all have the responsibility to take action. To further these goals, we commit to the following principles to advance interoperability among health information systems. Enabling the free movement of data is foundational to the success of delivery system reform.

1. **Consumer access:** To help consumers easily and securely access their electronic health information, direct it to any desired location, learn how their information can be shared and used, and be assured that this information will be effectively and safely used to benefit their health and that of their community.

2. **No Blocking/Transparency**: To help providers share individuals' health information for care with other providers and their patients whenever permitted by law, and not block electronic health information (defined as knowingly and unreasonably interfering with information sharing).

3. **Standards**: Implement federally recognized, national interoperability standards, policies, guidance, and practices for electronic health information, and adopt best practices including those related to privacy and security.

To implement these commitments we are engaged in the following initiatives:

- The American Medical Association (AMA) is actively working to improve patient access to their medical information by highlighting new government guidance that specifies requirements for individuals' access to their health information, offering toolkits on various aspects of HIPAA, and helping physicians leverage electronic tools to make health information more readily available.

- Developed by the AMA as the result of an AMA-RAND study, the STEPS Forward™ platform provides physicians and their staff with solid guidance to help them thrive in an evolving health care environment. The STEPS Forward modules include case studies, downloadable tools and resources for implementation that can improve practice efficiency, patient care, and help educate physicians on a wide-range of topics.

- As a founding member of The Sequoia Project (previously Healtheway), a non-profit 501(c)(3), the AMA is dedicated to the implementation of secure, interoperable nationwide health information exchange and is supporting these efforts with both the eHealth Exchange and Carequality. Both efforts include a trust framework that ensures free and open exchange of data and solidifies the use of common standards.

- The AMA is a founding partner of MATTER, a health tech incubator located in Chicago. Through our partnership, the AMA has created a dedicated space within MATTER, *The*

AMA Interaction Studio, which gives physicians the opportunity to directly connect with entrepreneurs at the very point of idea conception to develop new technologies, services and products that better serve physicians and patients.

- The AMA's Health2047's innovation studio is the first of its kind in health care with unique access to the AMA and its network of key industry opinion leaders, which includes subject matter expertise derived from the AMA's 230,000-plus direct physicians, medical student members and the House of Medicine. Our multi-disciplinary approach to projects encourages teams to think differently about solving today's most important health care challenges.

- In an effort to promote transparency around the design and testing of electronic health records (EHRs), the AMA and MedStar Health's National Center for Human Factors in Healthcare developed a comparative EHR User-Centered Design Evaluation Framework. The framework evaluates the EHR vendor's compliance with best practices for user-centered design (UCD) processes according to a 15 point scale.

- The AMA recognizes open and national standards as a key factor in EHR interoperability. A core component of the SMART Project is the development of a flexible information infrastructure that allows for free, open development of plug and play applications (apps) to increase interoperability among health care technologies, including EHRs, in a more cost-effective way. The AMA's role on the SMART Project's Advisory Committee is to help ensure EHR systems work better for physicians and patients.