

March 2, 2020

Donald W. Rucker, M.D.  
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology  
Office of the National Coordinator (ONC)  
Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)  
300 C Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Rucker:

As part of the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee's (HITAC) responsibilities pursuant to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act (Cures Act), the HITAC submits the attached *HITAC Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019* for your consideration and for subsequent transmittal to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and to Congress.

The Cures Act specifies interoperability, privacy and security, and patient access to information as the three priority target areas where HITAC should focus its activities. These priority target areas are an organizing principle related to the HITAC's current and future work. These priority target areas also provided an organizing principle for this report.

This report complies with the Cures Act directive across the priority target areas by:

- Reviewing fiscal year 2019 (FY19) HITAC activities;
- Describing the landscape of health information technology infrastructure;
- Analyzing infrastructure gaps; and
- Offering recommendations for future HITAC activities in the priority target areas.

The commitment and diverse expertise of the HITAC members, as well as public members who participated on task forces and workgroups and the ONC team supporting this effort, have brought both energy and insight to this evaluation of the U.S. health IT infrastructure. We look forward to another busy year as we continue to identify and promote use of better information and technology to improve care delivery and the health and well-being of everyone in the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/  
Carolyn Petersen  
Co-chair, Health Information Technology  
Advisory Committee

/s/  
Robert Wah  
Co-chair, Health Information Technology  
Advisory Committee