



# Annual Report Workgroup

## Discussion of Draft Crosswalk of Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

**Medell Briggs-Malonson, Co-Chair**

**Eliel Oliveira, Co-Chair**

**August 15, 2024**



# Annual Report Workgroup Update

- Workgroup Membership
- Meeting Schedules and Next Steps
- Discussion of Draft Crosswalk of Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24



# Annual Report Workgroup Membership and ASTP Staff

Member Name	Organization	Role
Medell Briggs-Malonson	UCLA Health	<i>Workgroup Co-Chair, HITAC Co-Chair</i>
Eliel Oliveira	Harvard Medical School & Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute	<i>Workgroup Co-Chair</i>
Shila Blend	North Dakota Health Information Network	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Hans Buitendijk	Oracle Health	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Sarah DeSilvey	Gravity Project	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Steven (Ike) Eichner	Texas Department of State Health Services	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Hannah Galvin	Cambridge Health Alliance	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Jim Jirjis	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	<i>Federal Representative</i>
Anna McCollister	Individual	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Kikelomo (Dayo) Oshunkentan	Pegasystems	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
Rochelle Prosser	Orchid Healthcare Solutions	<i>HITAC Committee Member</i>
ASTP Staff Name	Title	Role
Micky Tripathi	National Coordinator for Health Information Technology	<i>ASTP Leadership</i>
Elise Sweeney Anthony	Executive Director, Office of Policy	<i>ASTP Leadership</i>
Seth Pazinski	Division Director, Strategic Planning & Coordination	<i>Designated Federal Officer (DFO)</i>
Michelle Murray	Senior Health Policy Analyst	<i>ASTP Staff Lead</i>



# Meeting Schedules and Next Steps

# Meeting Schedule for the Annual Report Workgroup

Month	Deliverables to Review
June 3, 2024	Develop list of topics for FY24 Annual Report
June 17, 2024	Develop list of topics for FY24 Annual Report
July 8, 2024	Develop crosswalk of topics for FY24 Annual Report
July 22, 2024	Develop crosswalk of topics for FY24 Annual Report
August 5, 2024	Develop crosswalk of topics for FY24 Annual Report
August 26, 2024	Develop crosswalk of topics for FY24 Annual Report
September 9, 2024	Develop draft FY24 Annual Report
September 23, 2024	Develop draft FY24 Annual Report
October 7, 2024	Ready draft FY24 Annual Report for HITAC review
October 29, 2024	Update draft FY24 Annual Report for HITAC approval
November/December 2024	Ready FY24 Annual Report for transmittal

# Meeting Schedule for the Full Committee



Meeting Date	Action Items/Deliverables
June 13, 2024	Update on status of FY24 Annual Report development
July 11, 2024	Update on status of FY24 Annual Report development (discuss topic list)
August 15, 2024	Update on status of FY24 Annual Report development (discuss crosswalk)
September 12, 2024	Update on status of FY24 Annual Report development
October 17, 2024	Review draft FY24 Annual Report
November 7, 2024	Approve final FY24 Annual Report

## Annual Report Workgroup Next Steps

- Continue to develop draft crosswalk of topics and draft report at workgroup meetings during the late summer and early fall
- Provide progress update at HITAC meeting on September 12, 2024
- Present draft report for discussion at HITAC meeting on October 17, 2024
- Present revised report for discussion at HITAC meeting on November 7, 2024





**Discussion of Draft Crosswalk  
of Topics for the  
HITAC Annual Report for FY24**

# Draft Crosswalk of Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

- In preparation for drafting the HITAC Annual Report for FY24, the Annual Report Workgroup developed a crosswalk document that considers gaps, challenges, opportunities, and recommended HITAC activities for a set of key topics across several target areas
- The topics are grouped by several target areas defined in the Cures Act:
  1. Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity
  2. Use of Technologies that Support Public Health
  3. Interoperability
  4. Privacy and Security
  5. Patient Access to Information



# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Health and Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AI holds significant promise in solving healthcare challenges, yet research and regulations are necessary to ensure that AI is implemented in a safe and non-biased way.</li> <li>Various AI governance standards and approaches are being developed but there is a lack of evidence regarding which approaches are best suited to different use cases.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore steps ASTP could take, in collaboration with other agencies, to establish criteria for what constitutes data quality related to AI models, including both inputs and outputs. This effort should consider the usability and relevance of outputs at the individual person level across the spectrum of diverse populations.</li> <li>Explore steps ASTP could take to establish additional AI governance standards, including appropriate and ethical uses of AI in healthcare, or ways to leverage industry-developed approaches.</li> <li>Explore steps ASTP and other agencies could take to develop evidence generation in support of AI product lifecycle management approaches for different types of AI systems in varying contexts to mitigate bias and inequities.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity (cont.)

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Implementing Health Equity by Design	Many health IT systems and initiatives do not include health equity principles in their design, build, and implementation, resulting in worsening health inequities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommend that ASTP consider developing an actionable toolkit that:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Gives healthcare providers and health IT developers a step-by-step guide for how to start implementing health equity principles intentionally into their work.</li> <li>b) Includes case examples from different care settings.</li> <li>c) Includes steps to safeguard patients and engages patients in its development.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Explore the promotion of policies and standards that could be implemented to improve support for health equity by design.</li> <li>3. Recommend that the Health Equity by Design Task Force 2024 include in its work a discussion of a framework that includes health equity principles in the development of standards and infrastructure.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Use of Technologies that Support Public Health

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Optimizing Public Health Data Exchange and Infrastructure	There is a need for improved public health data systems and collaboration among federal as well as state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health authorities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite the TEFCA Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) to provide periodic updates to the HITAC and have a focused discussion on the data quality improvements required to support public health use cases in TEFCA.</li> <li>2. Identify best practices and challenges from STLT public health authorities' experience with onboarding healthcare providers to obtain and report high quality data in support of public health use cases.</li> <li>3. Review existing STLT public health authorities' data systems to identify those that contain information that could be shared with healthcare providers to support continuity of care and patient health.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Interoperability

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Supporting Interoperability Standards – Laboratories and Pharmacies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The inconsistent use of standards by pharmacies and by commercial and public health laboratories creates a barrier to interoperability.</li> <li>Pharmacies lack integration into the existing data exchange infrastructure that is widely deployed and bidirectional.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a listening session to identify adoption levers that could be used to incentivize laboratories to support increased use of standards, in addition to what is finalized in the HTI-2 rule.</li> <li>Receive an update from ASTP on an HHS multi-agency effort to improve laboratory interoperability.</li> </ol>
Supporting Image Interoperability	Interoperable access to radiological images is essential in medical care, but there is a significant need to improve electronic access and storage of radiological images to reduce duplicate testing and better support clinical decision-making.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand upon the recommendations identified by the HITAC Interoperability Standards Workgroup pertaining to radiologic images.</li> <li>Hold a listening session to identify adoption levers that could be used to support interoperable access to image data, in addition to what is finalized in the HTI-2 rule.</li> <li>Recommend a study to evaluate the benefits and costs of different levels of imaging sharing among various clinical use cases, including pediatric patient populations, to determine what approach will have the biggest impact.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Interoperability (cont.)

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Improving Long-Term and Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Interoperability	Interoperability needs to be increased across the broader care continuum to include LTPAC providers.	Explore additional certification needs for LTPAC providers' health IT systems to support bidirectional exchange with acute and ambulatory providers that have already adopted Certified Health IT Modules. Priority settings for this initiative could include home health and durable medical equipment providers.
Improving Behavioral Health Interoperability	Health IT adoption among behavioral health providers currently lags behind that of other providers.	Explore additional certification needs for behavioral health providers' health IT systems to support bidirectional exchange with acute and ambulatory providers that have already adopted Certified Health IT Modules.

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Interoperability (cont.)

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Further Improvement of Data Quality and Sharing	Data continues to be crucial to clinical care, research, population health, and patient engagement. Therefore, there is a need to evaluate data quality and ease of sharing across the healthcare continuum.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage ASTP to conduct an analysis of existing practices over national networks to define best practices and minimal standards for various use cases related to the time period of data retrieved (e.g., last visit, 90 days) and data relevance.</li> <li>2. Recommend that ASTP develop expectations for the baseline amount of data (i.e., how far back in time) that is expected to be included in a response to a TEFCA data request. Additionally, consider requirements that allow for the requester of information to indicate a different time period compared to the default baseline or consider adopting different baselines per TEFCA purpose of use code.</li> <li>3. Explore opportunities to leverage AI to monitor data quality in health IT systems.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Interoperability (cont.)

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Supporting Data Standards for Diverse Abilities	There is a lack of standards that support the interoperable exchange of information about patients with diverse abilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate the current landscape of patient disability and accessibility needs data then identify the information and IT systems sharing necessary to standardize and support patient accessibility needs.</li> <li>2. Hold a listening session to help identify health IT-related challenges faced by patients with diverse abilities and how to optimize health IT for their providers in caring for them.</li> </ol>
Provider Use of AI in Health and Healthcare	As AI capabilities continue to grow, there is a lack of best practices on where the use of AI is clinically appropriate.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate and strategize with ASTP on a framework for AI use in healthcare and other purposes.</li> <li>2. Request ASTP to identify what AI is and is not in healthcare to help frame future HITAC AI-related work.</li> <li>3. Explore steps ASTP, in collaboration with other agencies, could take to establish best practices for appropriate uses of AI in healthcare. Areas for best practices could include decision support, administrative and operational uses, and patient education and engagement.</li> <li>4. Explore the need for AI surveillance programs, similar to existing surveillance programs for drugs, to identify safety or equity concerns.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Privacy and Security

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Privacy of Sensitive Health Data — General	There is variability in privacy and security requirements across the country and in how these requirements are interpreted and implemented, including protections for sensitive data and accommodating patients' and providers' preferences about how this data is used.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate the current models and suggest steps toward a terminology value set for sensitive health data elements that could be widely adopted.</li> <li>2. Explore additional certification needs for health IT systems to support the privacy and security of sensitive data with acute and ambulatory providers that have already adopted Certified Health IT Modules, including the needs of behavioral health providers.</li> <li>3. Explore what additional foundational infrastructure needs to be implemented to support the interoperable exchange of consent information within and across jurisdictions.</li> </ol>

# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Privacy and Security (cont.)

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Lack of Disclosure Accountability	Patients have limited transparency into how their health data are shared.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Propose an initial foundation for implementing accounting of disclosures.</li> <li>2. Recommend a simplified model of accounting of disclosures that is concise, involves patients in its development, and considers readers' health literacy levels.</li> </ol>
Transparency in Use of De-Identified Data	Patients have limited understanding and transparency into how their de-identified health data are shared.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explore patient preferences for disclosures about the sharing of their de-identified health data.</li> <li>2. Explore opportunities to encourage healthcare organizations to regularly provide increased transparency into how they use de-identified data.</li> </ol>



# Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY24

## Target Area: Patient Access to Information

Topic	Gap	Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed)
Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessing PGHD requires special effort for providers and patients, including challenges in uploading to EHRs and controlling and directing one's personal data.</li> <li>PGHD devices (consumer and medical) and software developers are not subject to health IT certification but play a critical role in the ecosystem.</li> </ul>	TBD
Reducing Patient Burden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients continue to face issues in obtaining and using their health information to manage their healthcare.</li> <li>The lack of interoperability between healthcare providers increases patients' workload.</li> </ul>	TBD



# Discussion