

HITAC Annual Report for FY24

Key for edits:

Red Text = edits from HITAC members

Green topic cells = accepted edits

Grey topic cells = no change

List of HITAC Members' Comments

The Annual Report Workgroup collected comments from HITAC members on the version of the draft annual report dated 10/17/24 and convened to propose solutions for each comment, as noted below.

Section	Subsection	PDF Page	HITAC Member	Original Language	HITAC Member Suggestion	Proposed Solution
General						
None						
About the HITAC						
None						
Foreword						
None						
Target Areas						
Use of Artificial Intelligence that Improves Health and Health Care	Target Area description	5	Steven (Ike) Eichner	"Applying this emerging health IT by providers, patients, and other interested parties safely, securely, and fairly to achieve better health outcomes"	Written comment suggesting edits: "Applying Utilizing this emerging health IT by providers, patients, and other interested parties safely, securely, and fairly equitably to achieve better health outcomes"	Changes were made. Rationale: This target area description is new for FY24 and still under development.
Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity	Target Area description	5	Steven (Ike) Eichner	"Applying health IT to help all people attain their full health potential regardless of social drivers of health"	Written comment suggesting edits: "Applying Utilizing a wide range of health IT to help all people engage in their health care and attain their full health potential regardless of social drivers of health"	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Use of Technologies that Support Public Health	Target Area description	5	Steven (Ike) Eichner	"The facilitation of bidirectional information sharing between the clinical and public health communities"	Written comment suggesting edits: "The facilitation of bidirectional information sharing and exchange among between healthcare providers, payers, other authorized users, the clinical and public health authorities communities"	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.

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Interoperability	Target Area description	5	Steven (Ike) Eichner	"Achieving a health IT infrastructure that allows for the electronic access, exchange, and use of health information"	Written comment suggesting edits: "Achieving a health IT infrastructure that allows for the electronic access, exchange, and use of health information across a range of entities and individuals, including patients' secure access to all data about them "	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Interoperability	Target Area Title	5	Hans Buitendijk	"Interoperability"	Written comment suggesting edits: " Advancing Interoperability"	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Privacy and Security	Target Area Title	5	Hans Buitendijk	"Privacy and Security"	Written comment suggesting edits: " Protecting Privacy and Security When Accessing and Sharing Patient Data "	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Patient Access to Information Patient Access to Information	Target Area description	5	Steven (Ike) Eichner	"The facilitation of secure access by an individual and their caregiver(s) to such individual's protected health information"	Written comment suggesting edits: "The facilitation of secure access by an individual and those they authorize to access the their caregiver(s) to such individual's protected health information"	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Patient Access to Information Patient Access to Information	Target Area Title	5	Hans Buitendijk	"Patient Access to Information"	Written comment suggesting edits: " Enabling Patient Access to Information"	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.

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Health IT Infrastructure						
Target Area: Public Health	Illustrative story	17	Bryant Thomas Karras	<p>"An outbreak team is established by the state public health authority. The team works with staff from the hospitals and clinics, including those who support their health IT systems, to reach each person and ask them about what and where they had eaten as well as where they purchased groceries before getting sick."</p>	<p>Spoken comment: The story should go further and focus on a fully automated vision of the future using APIs where the clinician does not have to take time away from providing clinical care to provide the information to public health.</p> <p>Revised as: "An outbreak team is established by the state public health authority. The team quickly obtains the contact information for impacted patients from the facilities via an authorized API. works with staff from the hospitals and clinics, including those who support their health IT systems, to reach each person They reach all the patients to ask them about what and where they had eaten as well as where they purchased groceries before getting sick.</p>	Change was made.
Target Area: Interoperability	Illustrative story	20	Fillipe Southerland	<p>"The assisted living community shares timely progress reports with her orthopedist and PCP through their on-site resident information system, so the recovery data is available for follow-up appointments."</p>	<p>Written comment: "The term EHR is broadly adopted in Assisted and Retirement Living. I'd suggest we modify this language to reference the assisted living electronic health record."</p> <p>Revised as: "The assisted living community shares timely progress reports with her orthopedist and PCP through its EHR their on-site resident information system, so the recovery data is available for follow-up appointments."</p>	Change was made.
Target Area: Interoperability	Topic List	21	Derek De Young	N/A	<p>Written comment: "Recommend adding a topic next year focused on payer interoperability and administrative burden."</p>	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.

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Target Area: Interoperability	Improving Long-Term and Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Interoperability	21	Fillipe Southerland	Key Opportunities: "Examine opportunities to increase the availability of LTPAC-focused Certified Health IT Modules that support interoperability across the care continuum."	Written comment: "Propose modifying the Key Opportunities column to include LTPAC-focused certified HIT and incentive structures." Revised as: "Examine opportunities to incentivize LTPAC providers and increase the availability of LTPAC-focused Certified Health IT Modules that support interoperability across the care continuum."	Change was made.
Target Area: Interoperability	Improving Long-Term and Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Interoperability	21	Fillipe Southerland	Recommended Activity: "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."	Written comment: "Recommend we add SNF and community-based providers to this description." Revised as: "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 skilled nursing facilities, community-based organizations, home health, and durable medical equipment providers."	Change was made.
Target Area: Interoperability	Improving Long-Term and Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Interoperability	21	Fillipe Southerland	N/A	Written comment: "I'd also like to see us recommend reporting around LTPAC and, more broadly, specialty HIT sectors, so we have the necessary data to drive change." Potential new recommended HITAC activity for consideration: " Encourage ASTP, in coordination with relevant HHS agencies, to consider increasing its reporting around the adoption and use of health IT in LTPAC and other specialty healthcare settings. "	Change was made.

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Target Area: Interoperability	Improving Long-Term and Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Interoperability	21	Fillipe Southerland	N/A	<p>Written comment: “Can we add a specific task force recommendation for an LTPAC task force, similar to our other specialty HIT task forces (e.g., pharmacy task force)?”</p> <p>Potential new recommended HITAC activity for consideration: “Hold a listening session to identify elements of a framework that supports increased interoperability and standards for the LTPAC setting.”</p>	Change was made.
Target Area: Interoperability	Further Improvement of Data Quality and Sharing	22	Michael F. Chiang	N/A	<p>Spoken comment: Recommend breaking the topic into two separate topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further Improvement of Data Quality 2. Further Improvement of Data Sharing 	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion of exploring each topic further separately has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Target Area: Interoperability	Further Improvement of Data Quality and Sharing	22	Michael F. Chiang	N/A	<p>Spoken comment: Explore opportunities to incentivize data sharing by providers. How can we make providers feel like they are benefiting from data sharing.</p>	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.

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Target Area: Privacy and Security	Transparency in Use of De-Identified Data	27	Michael F. Chiang	"Transparency in Use of De-Identified Data"	Spoken comment: "Is there such a thing as really being de-identified? I just wonder whether you might consider calling it "legally de-identified" or something like that. I think we all suspect that these things can be reverse engineered, and you can kind of figure out sometimes who somebody really is based on their 'de-identified' data." Revised as: "Transparency in Use of De-Identified Data Pursuant to HIPAA"	Change was made. Rationale: This suggestion adds clarity.
Target Area: Privacy and Security	Transparency in Use of De-Identified Data	27	Michael F. Chiang	N/A	Spoken comment: Consider leveraging the findings of NIH's Novel and Exceptional Technology and Research Advisory Committee (NExTRAC) in regard to patient preferences, including informed consent, and exploring opportunities to work across HHS for best practices.	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
Target Area: Patient Access		19	Deven McGraw	N/A	Spoken comment: Patient access to data is not a solved problem and should be a continued point of emphasis in future reports. It would be helpful to continue to do check-ins on the status of API access and TEFCA Individual Access Services.	No change was made. Rationale: This suggestion has been placed on the list of potential topics for more in-depth consideration for the FY25 annual report.
HITAC Progress						
None						
Appendix						
None						
Administrative						
None						
Design						
None						