



Karen DeSalvo M.D., M.P.H., M.Sc.
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
Acting Assistant Secretary for Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

April 22, 2016

Dear Dr. DeSalvo,

CRISP 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 free movement of data, which are foundational to the success of delivery system reform.

1. **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).
2. **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.
3. **Consumer access**: To help our provider partners support consumers in easily and securely accessing their electronic health information. We affirm that consumers should have the ability to direct their information 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.

At its core, CRISP exists to facilitate data sharing among providers, payers, public health, and other stakeholders. CRISP is engaged in a number of significant projects to implement these commitments. Our ongoing provider connectivity efforts focus on enabling the free and secure flow of information among providers treating common patients. CRISP's continued pursuit of connectivity is rooted in standards-based exchange relying on standard documents and transport approaches. Lastly, CRISP is well positioned to support our provider partners in their deployment of consumer access solutions. CRISP intends to continue to support consumers' access to their health information and to enable consumer choice over more granular health information exchange consent preferences.

Sincerely,

[signed]

David Horrocks
CRISP President