



## National Association for the Support of Long Term Care

**October 2017**

The National Association for the Support of Long Term Care (NASL) is a consortium representing ancillary services and care providers serving the long term and post-acute care (LTPAC) sector. Our member companies provide rehabilitative care; health information technology (health IT) systems and solutions; laboratory services, portable x-ray/EKG and ultrasound; and deliver complex medical equipment and specialized supplies for the LTPAC sector. In 2005, NASL co-founded the Long Term & Post-Acute Care Health Information Technology Collaborative (LTPAC Health IT Collaborative), which continues working to advance health IT issues by encouraging coordination among provider organizations, policymakers, vendors, payers and other stakeholders.

We at NASL share the principle that to achieve 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.

- **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.
- **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).
- **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.

NASL strongly believes that there are tremendous opportunities for improving patient care and achieving savings for Medicare, Medicaid and our nation's healthcare system – opportunities that may be missed without greater involvement from the LTPAC sector. LTPAC providers are key partners of hospitals and physicians, as well as the federal government, in improving rehospitalization rates and patients' quality of care when transitioning from one care setting to another.

NASL stands ready to work with our members, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) and other stakeholders to achieve these goals and improve patient care.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Cynthia Morton'.

Cynthia Morton  
Executive Vice President