



The Office of the National Coordinator for  
Health Information Technology

# ONC Objectives and Benchmarks

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# ONC Objectives and Benchmarks

- For the purpose of the HITAC Annual Report, Section 4003 of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act states that:  
  
“...the National Coordinator, in collaboration with the Secretary, shall establish, and update as appropriate, objectives and benchmarks for advancing and measuring the advancement of the priority target areas...”
- ONC sets the objectives and benchmarks used in the development of the HITAC Annual Report
- ONC objectives and benchmarks align with the priority target areas
- ONC is open to feedback from HITAC members about the objectives and benchmarks

# HITAC Priority Target Areas: Defined in the Cures Act

- **Interoperability** – Achieving a health information technology infrastructure that allows for the electronic access, exchange, and use of health information
- **Privacy and Security** – The promotion and protection of privacy and security of health information in health IT
- **Patient Access** – The facilitation of secure access by an individual and their caregiver(s) to such individual's protected health information
- Any other target area related to the above target areas that the HITAC identifies as an appropriate target area to be considered on a temporary basis with adequate notice to Congress

# ONC Objectives and Benchmarks



Updates  
for FY19-20

# What Do We Want to See

Patients get their health information on their smartphone so they can shop for and control their healthcare

Data sharing rules of the road for industry

New business models made possible through the use of application programming interfaces (APIs) that benefit patients and providers

# ONC Objectives in FY19-20

**ONC performs activities to:**

Advance the  
development  
and use of  
health IT  
capabilities

Establish  
transparent  
expectations  
for data  
sharing

# ONC Benchmarks in FY19-20

## 1. Publish final rule covering secure, standards-based APIs for patients to access their medical records and information blocking exceptions

### » Progress to Date:

- Proposed rule titled “21st Century Cures Act: Interoperability, Information Blocking, and the ONC Health IT Certification Program” published on March 4, 2019, for public comment
- HITAC submitted recommendations to the National Coordinator
- Final rulemaking underway

### » Benchmark: Final rule published

# ONC Benchmarks in FY19-20 (cont.)

## 2. Publish Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement

### » Progress to Date:

- Trusted Exchange Framework Draft 1 released on January 5, 2018, for public comment
- Trusted Exchange Framework Draft 2 released on April 19, 2019, for public comment
- HITAC submitted recommendations to the National Coordinator on both drafts
- Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) cooperative agreement awarded

### » Benchmarks:

- Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) cooperative agreement awarded
- Final Trusted Exchange Framework published
- Draft Common Agreement made available for public comment



# ONC Benchmarks in FY19-20 (cont.)

## 3. Coordinate health IT standards and certification to support interoperability

### » Progress to Date:

- HITAC Interoperability Standards Priorities Task Force addressed the following three Priority Use Cases over the past year with detailed recommendations included in the draft final report:
  - Orders & Results
  - Closed Loop Referrals & Care Coordination
  - Medication & Pharmacy Data
- The HITAC submitted recommendations to the National Coordinator for version 1 of the U.S. Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) on April 18, 2018

### » Benchmarks:

- HITAC final report on priority uses of health IT and associated standards and implementation specifications published
- HITAC recommendations on the USCDI Data Element Promotion Model submitted
- HL7 Published FHIR Release 4 (R4), updated US Core Profiles for R4, and a Bulk Data Access Implementation Guide



## Thank You

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