

# Health IT Policy Committee

A Public Advisory Body on Health Information Technology to the National Coordinator for Health IT



## Consumer Workgroup

Christine Bechtel, chair

February 10, 2015

# Consumer Workgroup Members



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- **Christine Bechtel**, Bechtel Health Advisory Group (Chair)
  - **Neil S. Calman**, Institute for Family Health (co-chair)
  - **Dana Alexander**, Caradigm
  - **Tripp Bradd**, Skyline Family Practice, VA
  - **Leslie Kelly Hall**, Healthwise
  - **Ivor Horn**, Seattle Children's
  - **Erin Mackay**, National Partnership for Women & Families
  - **Philip Marshall**, Conversa Health
  - **Amy Berman/Wally Patarawan**, The John A. Hartford Foundation
  - **Will Rice**, Walgreens/Take Care Health Systems
  - **Clarke Ross**, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities; American Association on Health and Disability
  - **Luis Belen**, National Health IT Collaborative for the Underserved
  - **Kim Schofield**, Lupus Foundation of America (GA Chapter) Work@Health Program for CDC
  - **MaryAnne Sterling**, Patient & Caregiver Advocate
  - **Nicholas Terry**, Indiana University, Robert H. McKinney School of Law
- ### Ex Officio Members
- **Cynthia Baur**, HHS, CDC
  - **Teresa Zayas Caban**, HHS, AHRQ
  - **Danielle Tarino**, HHS, SAMHSA
  - **Theresa Hancock**, Veterans Affairs
  - **Bradford Hesse**, HHS, NIH
  - **Wendy J. Nilsen**, HHS, NIH
- ### ONC Staff
- **Chitra Mohla**, Office of Policy (Lead WG Staff)



# WORKGROUP CHARGE AND CONTEXT



Provide input and make recommendations on policy issues or opportunities to use health IT to:

- Engage consumers and families in their own health and health care
- Enable consumer-provider partnerships supported by health IT
- Elevate consumer voices to shape health system transformation



- General Comments on **high level components** of the Strategic Plan
  - Overview
  - Strategic, Goals, Objectives and Strategies framework
  - Strategic Plan Development & Update
  - Federal Health IT Principles
- General comments on **Goals, Objectives and Strategies**
  - Proposed new goal
- Specific comments on **Goals, Objectives and Strategies**
  - Themes



- General
  - Clarify “health IT” – not just EHRs, including consumer facing health IT
  - Define terms such mHealth, precision medicine, etc.
  - Include behavioral health and long term services and supports
- “Collect, Share and Use” framework
  - Focused on data
  - Ecosystem of health IT should have **people at the center**, and should reinforce collaborative relationships needed to improve health & care
  - Consider/connect to existing policy rubrics – Triple Aim, etc.
- Additional Health IT Principles concepts – use health IT to:
  - Empower consumers and family caregivers
  - Increase equity: Consumers and providers
  - Improve patient and family experience, concordance with patient goals

# General Comments on Goals, Objectives and Strategies



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- Ensure that strategies pertaining to consumers are visibly part of each objective
- Need a Bridge between
  - **Goal 3:** Strengthening Health Care Delivery, which is focused on providers  
and
  - **Goal 4:** Advance the Health and Well Being of Individuals and Communities, which includes a focus on consumers

*Building a culture of individual, provider, and community partnership to achieve shared person-centered health and health care goals*



## ***Building a culture of individual, provider, and community partnership to achieve shared person-centered health and health care goals***

- Leveraging health IT so that individuals, providers, community-based organizations and other patient supports will **partner together** to ID, align to and achieve health and care goals.
- Aligning around shared person-centered **goals** for health and care will help the federal government and all health care stakeholders to align efforts in patient engagement, quality measurement, reporting, and payment.
- Health system will be incentivized to **continuously and collaboratively** work with individuals to document, measure, refine, communicate and achieve objectives that are both meaningful to patients *and* achievable by the delivery system
- **Umbrella** goal for areas such as care planning, shared decision making, patient-generated health data, health literacy and communication, and much more.



# Summary of Comments: Goals, Objectives and Strategies



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## Work Group's Specific Comments on Goals, Objectives & Strategies organized by our Charge:

- Engage consumers and families in their own health and health care
- Enable consumer-provider partnerships supported by health IT
- Elevate consumer voices to shape health system transformation

## Government Strategies Suggested:

- Payment
- Certification
- Policy (MU, privacy, etc.)
- Program requirements
  - Advanced models of care, grants, contracts, etc.
- Purchaser (FEHBP, etc.)
- Technical assistance (RECs, NCC contractors, etc.)



- **Consumer Access to & Use of Information**
  - Monitor/address “portal fatigue”
  - Ability to aggregate data from multiple sources and share seamlessly
    - Easy for consumers and providers
  - Access to health information thru mobile devices and consumer facing health IT
  - Remote monitoring/telehealth
  - Convenience features

# Summary of Comments: Goals, Objectives and Strategies



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- **Equity**
  - Monitor/address digital divide at the consumer level
  - Health literacy and health IT literacy
  - Language access
- **Privacy**
  - Support for several strategies
  - Consumer-facing health IT advancements in market highlights policy gaps
    - What policy options do we have for areas not covered by HIPAA? How do we improve consumer confidence through privacy protections in areas like PHRs, mHealth apps, etc.?

# Summary of Comments: Goals, Objectives and Strategies



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- **Person Centered Planning**
  - Frame under new proposed Objective, or under 4A (consumer-focused)
  - Person-centered plan is important umbrella:
    - Patient life and health goals
    - Integration of health, behavioral health, community supports and services
    - ID and support for the role of family caregivers
    - Social determinants of health
    - PGHD
    - Link to shared decision making tools
    - Care coordination and interoperability are essential
  - Needed in the market:
    - Common understanding of planning process and approach
    - EHR capability (standards, certification)
    - Supportive payment policy



- Elevating consumer voices will be essential in
  - Governance of HIE, interoperability initiatives and research
  - Training & Education
    - For consumers – value, use and privacy of electronic health information (focus on convenience features)
    - For providers – how to partner with patients in their care using HIT, and how to partner with patients in implementation initiatives



# Questions