GE Healthcare

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Karen DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
Acting Assistant Secretary for Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Dear Dr. DeSalvo,

We, GE Healthcare, share 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. 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.

2. 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).

3. 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.

To implement these principles GE Healthcare is undertaking the following:

- Enabling our customers to connect their EHRs and other HIT to other providers and health information exchanges, using recognized national standards, including both Direct and query-based models.
- Implementing interoperability standards recognized by ONC and deploying or piloting associated capabilities with our clients based on their priority use cases.
- Piloting open APIs that enable both patient and provider-focused data access, using FHIR.
- Supporting and participating in private sector standards and interoperability initiatives.
- Investing in modern cloud-based capabilities to provide our customers greater choice on deployment of both GE and third party applications that meet growing provider needs to implement exchange and use data to provide integrated, patient-centric care

Interoperability is going to be a driving force for improving the patient experience, improving the health of populations and reducing the cost of delivering health care. GE Healthcare is committed to doing its part.

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