

As an alliance of 27 leading academic cancer centers in the United States, The National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) is a developer of authoritative information regarding cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and supportive care that is widely used by clinical professionals. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology® represent the standard of care for clinicians and policy makers. We encourage the use of the NCCN Guidelines® and their derivatives for ensuring access to appropriate care, clinical decision making, and assessment of quality improvement initiatives.

NCCN 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.

- **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.

To implement these commitments, NCCN is or will enable its content, including Guidelines and derivative products, to permit ingestion into various types of technology for use by all stakeholders. As part of this effort, NCCN is transitioning its Guidelines and other clinical information products to data base systems with properties linking concepts to controlled terminology sets to normalize information for analysis. NCCN is also exploring the use of the HL7 FHIR standard for provision of chemotherapy orders templates for use by a variety of EHR systems. The goal of these efforts is to help standardize cancer care information to the highest standards across EHR technologies in the patient care continuum.

Further, NCCN is working toward a digitized cancer outcomes database. For instance, the database may show guideline concordance across a care continuum inclusive of multiple providers with various EHR technologies. The completeness of available data to perform these analyses data also may be used to quantify the degree to which interoperability was achieved.