HHS Announces Additional Members of the HIT Policy and Standards Committees

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) requires the Secretary to issue, through the rulemaking process, "an initial set of standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria" for health information technology (HIT). To help develop these standards, ARRA establishes an HIT Policy Committee and an HIT Standards Committee. The Policy Committee is tasked with recommending a "policy framework" for the development of a nationwide HIT infrastructure. This policy framework will help shape the standards ultimately developed by the HIT Standards Committee.

The Secretary of HHS, as directed by ARRA, appointed three individuals to the HIT Policy Committee today. In addition, the Secretary also appointed members of the Standards Committee. Representatives to the Standards Committee from other federal agencies will be named at a later date. The Policy Committee is scheduled to meet for the first time on May 11, 2009 and the Standards Committee will meet on May 15, 2009.

The HHS press release may be found at the following web address: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/05/20090508a.html

The three additional members of the HIT Policy Committee are:

David Blumenthal, M.D., M.P.P.
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Michael J. Klag, M.D., M.P.H.
Dean, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Deven C. McGraw, J.D., M.P.H., Director
Health Privacy Project, Center for Democracy & Technology

Members of the Standards Committee include:

Jonathan Perlin, M.D., Chair
Healthcare Corporation of America

John Halamka, M.D., Co-Chair
Harvard Medical School

Dixie Baker, Ph.D.
Science Applications International Corporation
Wes Rishel
Gartner, Inc.

Sharon Terry, M.A.
Genetic Alliance

James Walker, M.D.
Geisinger Health System