

Electronic Health Records (EHR) Taskforce Steering Committee Video Conference Meeting Summary

Host Site: Assistant Director's Office
Illinois Department of Public Health
5th Floor
535 W. Jefferson St.
Springfield

October 11, 2006

Steering Committee Members

Patrick Gallagher representing Craig
Backs, M.D.
Alan Berkelhamer, R.Ph.
Ellen S. Brull, M.D.
Bradford A. Buxton
Jonathan Dopkeen, Ph.D.
Patricia Merryweather
Mary Thompson

Staff Members

Fee Habtes
Jeff W. Johnson

Guests

David Carvalho, Deputy Dir., IDPH Office
of Policy, Planning and Statistics
Denise Gaines, Chief, IDPH Division of
Governmental Affairs

Upon reaching a quorum, Dr. Jonathan Dopkeen convened the meeting at 8:19 a.m. The first order of business was the approval of the September 19, 2006, meeting summary. The summary was adopted without dissent.

Dr. Dopkeen then directed the committee to the October 5th "Outline of Draft Legislative Recommendations" document. He pointed out that the board composition had changed in the draft to include a nurse representative per the suggestion of Joyce Sensmeier. The members concurred with that addition. Dr. Dopkeen then mentioned that another member had suggested the addition of a representative from the "health information/medical record profession." Several members indicated they didn't support the suggestion.

Dr. Dopkeen then moved to the issue of appointing authority for the board of directors. David Carvalho noted that boards of governmental agencies are appointed by the Governor. He also indicated that he thought the size of the proposed board was too large. This generated additional discussion regarding the board composition. It was suggested that additional discussion of the board composition be put off until another meeting. The members agreed to replace the detailed listing with a general statement that the board would be appointed by the governor from recommendations of various stakeholder organizations.

The committee then discussed the privacy and security provisions in the outline. At present, the proposal only empowers the authority to "adopt privacy, security, operational and technical standards for entities connecting to the state health information exchange." These standards would not apply to transactions involving one local health information exchange directly transmitting information to another. If the authority were given the expanded role of

promulgating standards for all electronic health transactions, it would need to create a regulatory mechanism to ensure compliance. There was no desire among the members to expand the authority's role in this area. Members indicated the report should note that covered entities retain responsibility for the privacy and security of records under existing federal and state law.

Dr. Dopkeen then addressed the provisions of the proposal dealing with population health and research. The members approved a suggestion from Mr. Carvalho that the research provision be amended to allow the board to appoint or designate an institutional review board (IRB) instead of simply appointing an IRB. This change would allow the board to use an existing IRB if they so desired.

A member asked Dr. Dopkeen about the next steps for the Taskforce. He indicated that the revised proposal would be sent to the committees for their review as to how it relates to their goals and objectives. The committees would also work on finalizing their findings and recommendations for inclusion in the report.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.