

HISPC-Illinois II

The Public-Private Partnership Moves Forward on Privacy and Security



October 18, 2007

Dear Stakeholder,

Enclosed for your review are work products developed by the Health Information Security and Privacy Collaboration ("HISPC") – Illinois II project intended to address privacy and security issues facing the governance system of a state-level health information exchange ("HIE"). One product is a draft document entitled "**Recommendations on Privacy and Security Policies: For Consideration by the Governance Structure of an Illinois State-Level Health Information Exchange.**" The other product includes model consent forms or notices to be provided to patients advising them of their rights regarding the sharing of their health information by an HIE.

Your current or future participation in the exchange of patient health information is vital to improving Illinois' health care system. As a stakeholder in this process, we value your opinion on these materials.

Because this project is under a tight time-frame, we would ask that you submit your comments to us by the close of business on **November 7, 2007**. If you have received this information from a representative of your association or organization, please feel free to submit your comments through that person. Otherwise, we ask that your comments be e-mailed to Kathy (Karsten) Tipton, MPS, at kathy.karsten@illinois.gov.

To give you some background on how this project developed, HISPC is a federal initiative to study privacy and security "challenges" for the implementation of HIE in the states. Phase I of the initiative involved identifying best practices and challenges; developing consensus-based solutions that protect the privacy and security of health information; and, developing plans to implement solutions. Phase II involves the implementation of some of these plans developed during the first phase.

The priority for Illinois as HISPC enters phase II is to work with governmental and private sector stakeholders - a public-private partnership - to move forward on privacy and security issues that need to be addressed by the governance structure of a state-level HIE. For more information on the HISPC – Illinois II project, please visit our Web site at www.idph.state.il.us/hispc2.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Jeff Johnson, HISPC – Illinois II Project Director at 217-558-3403, or e-mail him at Jeff.W.Johnson2@illinois.gov. Thank you for your assistance with this project. We look forward to receiving your comments on these important documents.

Sincerely,

David Carvalho
Deputy Director, Policy, Planning & Statistics
Illinois Department of Public Health

Enclosures