

# Supporting HIT and Aging in the Office of the Secretary, Department of Health & Human Services

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# Health Information Technologies for Aging Populations

- Electronic Health Records
- Personal Health Records
  - Telehealth
  - Secure Messaging

# Barriers to Use of HIT

- Financial
- Workflow
- Culture
- Legal
- Technical

# Efforts to Date

- American Health Information Community
  - Use Cases
- Long Term Care Functional Profile
  - Certification of Standards
    - Erickson School
    - CARE tool

# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009

# Health Care Provider

the term “health care provider” includes a hospital, skilled nursing facility, nursing facility, home health entity, other long-term care facility, community mental health center...

# Technologies for Consideration

- Appropriate use of a nationwide health information network
- Self-service technologies that facilitate exchange of information
- Telemedicine technologies
- Technologies that facilitate home health care and home monitoring
- Technologies that help reduce medical errors
- Technologies that facilitate continuity of care
- Technologies that meet needs of diverse populations
- Methods to facilitate secure access
- Methods to facilitate secure access by family, caregiver, or guardian
- Any other technology that the Committee finds to be among the technologies with the greatest potential to improve the quality and efficiency of healthcare.

# Study of Aging Services Technology

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall carry out, or contract with a private entity to carry out, a study of matters relating to the potential use of new aging services technology to assist seniors, individuals with disability, and their caregivers throughout the aging process.

The study shall include:

- An evaluation of the methods for identifying current, emerging, and future health technology that can be used to meet the needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities and their caregivers across all aging services settings
- Methods for fostering scientific innovation with respect to aging services technology within the business and academic communities
- Developments in aging services technology in other countries
- Identification of barriers and strategies to address them

Report due to Congress by February 2011

# HIT Regional Extension Centers

Secretary shall create a Health Information Technology Regional Extension Centers to provide support and accelerate efforts to adopt, implement, and effectively utilize health information technology that allows for the standardized electronic exchange and use of information.

HIT RECs must provide nationwide technical assistance to healthcare providers for the implementation use, upgrading and maintenance of health IT, including EHRs, disseminate best practices, and integrate health IT into the training of health care professionals to improve quality.

# State Grants

The Secretary shall establish a program to facilitate and expand the standardized electronic movement and use of health information among organizations.

# Workforce Training

The Secretary shall provide assistance to institutions of higher medical education to establish or expand medical health informatics education programs including certification, undergraduate and masters degree programs for both health care and information technology studies the ensure the rapid and effective utilization and development of health information technologies.

# **Study EHR Payment Incentives for Providers Not Receiving Other Incentive Payments**

The Secretary shall fund a study to evaluate whether payment incentives to use qualified health IT should be made available to health care providers not otherwise receiving incentive payments under the ARRA.