

August 23, 2021

Gene L. Dodaro
Comptroller General
U.S. Government Accountability Office
ATTN: HIT Committee
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro:

In response to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) notice in the Federal Register published July 19, 2021, the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Association enthusiastically endorses Hans J. Buitendijk for appointment to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC).

Mr. Buitendijk is well qualified to serve on the Federal Advisory Committee called for in the 21st Century Cures Act to “recommend to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology policies, standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria, relating to the implementation of a health information technology infrastructure, nationally and locally, that advances the electronic access, exchange, and use of health information.”

Following is a summary of the nominee’s relevant experience. It is our understanding that the full nominations of these individuals, including their resumes, are being submitted separately to the GAO.

Hans J. Buitendijk, M.Sc., FHL7
Director, Interoperability Strategy
Cerner Corporation

As a member of HITAC, Hans Buitendijk will bring a breadth of interoperability knowledge representing the perspectives of a wide range of EHR suppliers. He has continuously demonstrated his commitment to identifying practical, consensus approaches to move the healthcare industry forward ensuring that all stakeholders have access to relevant data to enable enhanced patient care.

AdvancedMD	CPSI	Experity Health	MEDHOST	Nextgen Healthcare
Allscripts	CureMD	Flatiron Health	MEDITECH, Inc.	Office Practicum
Athenahealth	eClinicalWorks	Foothold Technology	Medsphere	Sevocity - Division of Conceptual Mindworks, Inc.
BestNotes	eMDs	Greenway Health	Modernizing Medicine	STI Computer Services
Bizmatix	Endosoft	Harris Healthcare Group	Netsmart	Varian Medical Systems
Cerner Corporation	Epic	Lumeris	Nextech	

Buitendijk has more than 35 years of experience in systems development, consulting, product management, standards development, and regulatory engagement focused on interoperability. Also, he is an expert in industry standards development and regulatory engagement helping to inform electronic health record focused regulations. He is the current Chair of the EHR Association's Executive Committee as well as the Chair of the Association's Standards & Interoperability Workgroup and Co-Lead of the Public Health Task Force. Additionally, he represents the EHR Association on the CARIN Alliance Board and The Sequoia Project's Interoperability Matters Emergency Preparedness initiative, while being active in various industry forums addressing interoperability. He is a past HL7 board member, currently serves on the Carequality board as well as the steering committees of the HL7 Accelerator program Argonaut and Da Vinci. Across these organizations and within his own, Buitendijk actively bridges the various perspectives to achieve common goals.

The EHR Association recommends Mr. Buitendijk, who will provide valuable contributions to the important work of the Committee, moving the U.S. healthcare system forward toward a value-based, patient-centered healthcare system for all Americans.

The EHR Association's nearly 30 member companies serve the vast majority of hospitals, post-acute, specialty-specific, and ambulatory healthcare providers using EHRs across the United States. Our focus is on collaborative efforts to accelerate health information and technology adoption, assist member companies with regulatory compliance, advance information exchange between interoperable systems, and improve the quality and efficiency of patient care through the use of technology.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to continuing our work with the Committee.

Sincerely,



David J. Bucciferro
Vice Chair, EHR Association
Foothold Technology

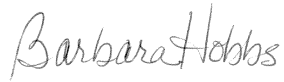
HIMSS EHR Association Executive Committee



Pamela Chapman
Experity Health



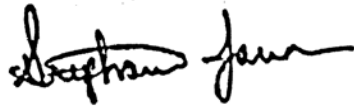
William J. Hayes, M.D., M.B.A.
CPSI



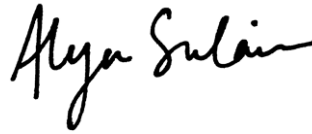
Barbara Hobbs
MEDITECH, Inc.



Cherie Holmes-Henry
NextGen Healthcare



Stephanie Jamison
Greenway Health



Alya Sulaiman, JD
Epic

About the HIMSS EHR Association

Established in 2004, the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Association is comprised of nearly 30 companies that supply the vast majority of EHRs to physicians' practices and hospitals across the United States. The EHR Association operates on the premise that the rapid, widespread adoption of EHRs will help improve the quality of patient care as well as the productivity and sustainability of the healthcare system as a key enabler of healthcare transformation. The EHR Association and its members are committed to supporting safe healthcare delivery, fostering continued innovation, and operating with high integrity in the market for our users and their patients and families. The EHR Association is a partner of HIMSS.

For more information, visit www.ehra.org.