

# EHRVA

HIMSS Electronic Health Record Vendors Association

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August 20, 2007

Mark Leavitt, MD, PhD, FHIMSS  
Chairperson  
CCHIT  
233 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2150  
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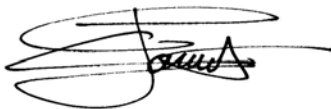
Dear Dr. Leavitt:

At our August 14, 2007 EHRVA all-member meeting, we reviewed an inpatient/outpatient use-case that EHRVA members believe improves interoperability in typical point-to-point information exchange scenarios that occur between inpatient and ambulatory EHR systems. This use case is also scalable to the interoperability specifications for connection to the Nationwide Health Information Network. It reflects the reality that certified EHR systems are more likely to connect to other ambulatory or inpatient systems in the near-term, before there are opportunities to connect to a health information exchange. The need for this type of interoperability solution is further heightened by the interoperability requirements set forth in the recent Stark Safe Harbor for EHR donation. This use-case is also consistent with our July 20, 2007 letter to Dr. Robert Kolodner (see attached), National Coordinator for HIT.

The attached inpatient/outpatient use-case was supported unanimously by our membership, and we are forwarding it to CCHIT for review as part of its 2008 interoperability requirements environmental scan process. Please forward to the Interoperability Expert Panel Ambulatory EHR Workgroup, Inpatient EHR Workgroup, Network Foundation Workgroup and other teams as appropriate.

We look forward to working with HITSP and CCHIT in creating interoperability solutions that solve today's interoperability challenges using the harmonized interoperability specifications recognized by the Secretary - as well as positioning us to respond effectively and efficiently to interoperability opportunities as standards efforts and technology evolve.

Sincerely,



Charles Parisot  
GE Healthcare  
Chair, EHRVA Standards & Interoperability  
Work Group



Davin Hills  
Sr. Vice President, MediNotes  
Vice Chair, EHRVA Standards &  
Interoperability Work Group

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cc: EHRVA Executive Committee  
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- Barry Blumenfeld, MD, GE Healthcare
- George Cole, Allscripts
- David Tao, MD, Siemens Medical Solutions

EHRVA members on CCHIT Network Work Group

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- Eric Rose, MD, McKesson Provider Technologies
- Susan Thomas, MD, GE Healthcare

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- John Foy, MD, PhD, Product Strategy, GE Healthcare IT
- Sharon Hines, RN, Healthcare Management Systems, Inc.
- Gail Latimer RN, VP, CNO, Siemens Medical Solutions
- Rick Reeves, CPSI

John Halamka, MD  
John Loonsk, MD

Attachments:  
Inpatient/Outpatient Use-case  
AHIC Letter - July 20, 2007

### About HIMSS EHRVA

*HIMSS EHRVA is a trade association of Electronic Health Record (EHR) vendors that join together to lead the HIT industry in the accelerated adoption of electronic health records in hospital and ambulatory care settings in the US. Representing an estimated 90% of the installed EHR systems in the US, the association provides a forum for the vendor community to speak with a unified voice relative to standards development, the EHR certification process, interoperability, performance and quality measures, and other EHR issues as they become subject to increasing government, insurance and provider driven initiatives and requests. Membership is open to HIMSS corporate members with legally formed companies designing, developing and marketing their own commercially available EHRs with installations in the USA. The association, comprised of approximately 40 member companies, is a partner of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) and operates as an organizational unit within HIMSS. For more information, visit <http://www.himssehrva.org>.*