

ONC's Interoperability Roadmap Offers a Critical Path toward Transparency and Better Care

PORTLAND, Maine. – January 30, 2015 – The [Center for Healthcare Transparency](#), a non-profit that is laying the groundwork for greater transparency of healthcare cost and quality across the country, applauds the move to data sharing for better care outlined in the Office of the National Coordinator's (ONC's) Shared Nationwide Interoperability Roadmap released today. The Roadmap articulates a vision for sharing electronic health information more broadly to support better decision-making by providers, consumers and others and calls for government and private sector collaboration.

“Access to accurate, complete and meaningful data is fundamental to transparency and an essential element in transforming our healthcare system” explains Kristin Majeska, Senior Director of the [Center for Healthcare Transparency](#) at NRHI. “The Roadmap's Guiding Principles, governance recommendations and Standards Advisory are meaningful steps which will lead to providers having a more complete understanding of the appropriate care for each patient and to patients being able to choose providers based on a complete picture of the quality of healthcare they deliver.”

“This broad and strategic approach that ONC is taking is important to improving our nation's healthcare. The emphasis on aligning private and public incentives and developing an interoperable health IT ecosystem to foster a person-centered model of healthcare delivery is needed now more than ever,” says David Lansky, President & CEO of the Pacific Business Group on Health.

Even in communities with robust community based Health Information Exchanges (HIEs), typically only 60-90% of patients' information is available to other providers who may be seeing the patient. The Roadmap's principles and building blocks will help enable trusted regional entities that are in the best position to improve information sharing to move toward a more complete common clinical data set so that all stakeholders can better understand and improve the quality and value of care.

The Roadmap's underlying requirement that “individuals are empowered to be active managers of their own care” supports the efforts of major employers who are actively engaging their employees in making informed decisions about their healthcare. Employers want to be able to point their employees to providers who provide high quality. Employees, particularly those with high deductibles and healthcare savings accounts, need accurate information about local providers so they can be good stewards of the dollars they spend. That information can't stay locked up in individual silos. The Roadmap will help the right information flow to the right people at the right time to be useful.

The [Center for Healthcare Transparency](#) is poised to transform the U.S. healthcare system through making the relative cost and quality of healthcare services consistently and easily

accessible for 50% of the U.S. by 2020. Led by [Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement](#) and [Pacific Business Group on Health](#), the Center is in the planning phase of implementing a network of regionally governed multi-stakeholder data entities to bring clinical and patient experience data together with cost to drive health improvement.

About the Center for Healthcare Transparency

The Center for Healthcare Transparency (CHT) is an initiative led by the Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI) and the Pacific Business Group on Health (PBGH). The Center is working with organizations across the country to provide meaningful cost and quality information to 50% of the US by 2020. By leveraging the groundbreaking work done in regional data and analytics organizations, the Center brings the power of informed decision-making to every stakeholder in the healthcare puzzle – patients, providers, plans, employers and public purchasers. Follow the Center on Twitter at [@CHT_Transparent](#)

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