



National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics
Advising the HHS Secretary on National Health Information Policy



NCVHS Update:

- *Finding a Path toward Converging Administrative and Clinical Data Standards*
and
- *Prior Authorization*

Agenda



- NCVHS's role and scope
 - Standard and Review Subcommittees
- Current Activities
 - Predictability of Standards
 - Convergence of Administrative and Clinical
 - NCVHS' Prior Authorization Journey
- What the Future Holds

Background



NCVHS is the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) statutory public advisory body on health data, statistics and national health information policy:

- 18 members appointed for four-year terms
 - Diverse backgrounds, expertise and geography
- Develops and delivers practical, timely, thorough recommendations to the HHS Secretary
- Holds three full committee meetings per year
- Convenes public hearings, listening sessions, workshops, roundtables
- Provides periodic reports to Congress
- Develops resources such as reports, white papers, environmental scans

Focus Areas



NCVHS Domain Areas	Focus
Population Health	Monitoring the nation's health data needs and current approaches to meeting those needs. Recent focus on making small area data more available and vital registration and statistics data systems.
Privacy, Confidentiality and Security	Emerging issues related to health information privacy, confidentiality, security and data stewardship.
Standards	Public health informatics and data standards: <i>identifiers, transaction standards, code sets, and operating rules for administrative transactions as required under HIPAA, MMA, and ACA.</i> Reports to Congress on HIPAA Administrative Simplification. 21 st Century Cures Act collaboration with ONC's HITAC.
Requests from the HHS Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)	

NCVHS Selected Work Products



Vital Records/Population Health:

- Vital Records and Vital Statistics in the United States: [Uses, Users, Systems, and Sources of Revenue](#)
- U.S. Vital Registration and Vital Statistics System – [Critical Challenges and Opportunities](#)
- [NCVHS Measurement Framework for Community Health and Well-Being, V4](#)
- [The NCVHS Health Data Framework White Paper](#)
- Next Generation Vital Statistics: [A Hearing on Current Status, Issues, and Future Possibilities](#)

NCVHS Selected Work Products



HIPAA - ICD related:

- Recommendations on Criteria for Adoption and Implementation of [Health Terminology and Vocabulary Standards, and Guidelines for Curation and Dissemination of these Standards](#)
- Recommendations on Regulatory [Simplification of the International Classification of Diseases \(ICD\)](#)
- [Preparing for Adoption of ICD-11](#) as a Mandated U.S. Health Data Standard

NCVHS Selected Work Products



HIPAA – Report, Privacy, Standards related:

- HIPAA Report: [Thirteenth Report to Congress](#)
- Privacy - Beyond HIPAA:
 - [A 2018 Environmental Scan of Major Trends and Challenges](#)
 - [A Framework for Use and Protection: A Report for Policy Makers](#)
- Standards Predictability and Efficiency Recommendations:
 - [Additional recommendations for HHS actions to improve the adoption of standards under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act \(HIPAA\) of 1996](#)
 - [NCVHS Recommendations on New Approaches to Improve the Adoption of National Standards for the Health Care](#)
 - [Findings from Administrative Simplification Hearing](#)
 - [Recommendations for the Electronic Health Care Attachment Standard](#)
 - and other roadmap, prior authorization and attachments letters such as: [2014](#), [2013](#), [2012](#)

Standards Subcommittee Charge



Monitors and makes recommendations to the Full Committee on health data standards, including implementation of the Administrative Simplification provisions of HIPAA, MMA, ACA and associated areas of focus such as interoperability.

- Identify opportunities and issues in health data standards for full Committee attention
- **Provide outreach, liaison, and consultation with, and serve as a public forum** on health information technology standards for, the following stakeholders: Health care industry, Federal, state and local governments, Standards development organizations, Health information technology companies, Public health, Consumer groups, Research community
- Make recommendations to the Full Committee related to **Electronic transactions, Health terminologies and vocabularies, Clinical documentation, Security measures, Identifiers for employers, health plans, health care providers and patients, Operating Rules**
- Make recommendations to the Full Committee on strategies to **promote a continuing process of developing, coordinating, adopting, implementing and maintaining standards**. These strategies may include public information and educational efforts as well as research and development efforts.
- Produce recommendations for the Full Committee's **report to Congress** on HIPAA Administrative Simplification
- Collaborate with the other NCVHS subcommittees on cross-cutting issues
- Collaborate with **other Federal Advisory Committees on cross-cutting issues** as appropriate and when delegated by the Full Committee

Predictability Roadmap & Convergence



- Industry migration to being more patient centered and outcomes based
- Urgent need to accommodate business and technology changes in health care
 - Improve standards development processes for standards and operating rules
 - Ensure that regulatory process enabled use of updated or new standard transactions and operating rules
 - Reduce administrative burdens
 - Address clinical and administrative data intersection



What is Prior Authorization?

- An administrative process which requires a health care provider (physicians, pharmacists, medical groups and hospitals) to request approval from a health plan to provide a medical service, prescription medication or supply to a patient.
- The authorization must be obtained in advance of the service or prescription being delivered to the patient.
- The health plans' purpose for authorizations is to ensure the use of evidence-based guidelines, prevent potential misuse or overuse of services, control costs and monitor care coordination.
 - Authorizations are often contractually required under a payer's medical policy or coverage rules to support downstream payment processes.
- Separate Medical and Pharmacy standards adopted

Convergence & Prior Auth Project



- Development of recommendations to support convergence of clinical and administrative data with initial focus on the prior authorization transactions and workflow
- In the project NCVHS, in collaboration with ONC, is attempting:
 - to identify and recommend a path toward convergence of administrative and clinical data standards.
 - proposes to use the prior authorization processes of industry as an exemplar, and to better understand and guide convergence paths for health care policy and standards.
- Full Committee discussion slated for [March 24, 2020](#)

Convergence & Prior Auth Timeline



- Anticipate NCVHS project run for 6-12 months to result in the proposal of one or more concrete approaches for consideration by HHS and/or industry.
- Draft/Proposed Phases:
 - Phase I: **Discovery**: Gather information from prior hearings and input received through participation in the HITAC task force.
 - Phase II: **Analysis**: Evaluate the gathered information and HITAC task force findings
 - Phase III: **Drafting**: Develop and submit recommendations to HHS

NCVHS Resources



- <https://ncvhs.hhs.gov/>
- Member roster
- Meeting announcements, letters to the HHS Secretary, reports, tools, other resources available
- Electronic/remote access to meetings and meeting materials

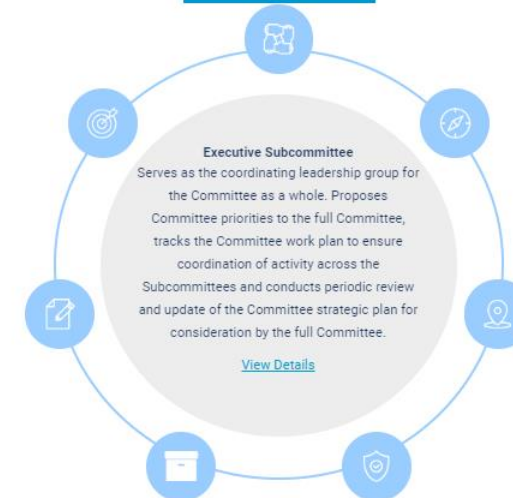
The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with 'CONTACT US' on the left and a search icon on the right. Below this is a blue banner with the NCVHS logo and a menu with links for HOME, MEMBERS, ORGANIZATION, MEETINGS, PRODUCTS, and ABOUT. The main hero section features the text 'NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON VITAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS' and a sub-headline 'Advising the Secretary of Health and Human Services on health data, privacy, and national health information policy.' A blue 'About' button is positioned below the sub-headline. The background of the hero section is a blurred image of a person holding a tablet with various health-related icons overlaid.

About NCVHS

The NCVHS serves as the statutory [42 U.S.C. 242k(k)] public advisory body to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) for health data, statistics, privacy, and national health information policy and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The Committee advises the HHS Secretary, reports regularly to Congress on HIPAA implementation, and serves as a forum for interaction between HHS and interested private sector groups on a range of health data issues.

[MORE ABOUT NCVHS](#)

Subcommittees



Upcoming Meetings

3 **March** Full Committee Meeting
24-25
Tue-Wed

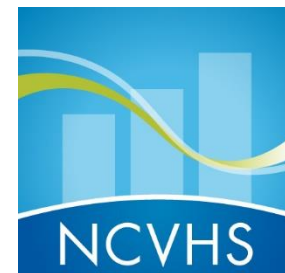
Past Meetings

3 **November 13-14, 2019** - Full Committee Meeting
3 **August 6-7, 2019** - Subcommittee on Standards – ICD-11 Evaluation Expert Roundtable Meeting

Recommendations, Reports, and Presentations

3 **December 10, 2019** - Recommendation Letter: HHS Actions to Improve the Adoption of

ONC's HITAC ICAD Task Force



Intersection of Clinical and Administrative Data (ICAD) Task Force

- Vision:
Support the convergence of clinical and administrative data to improve data interoperability to support clinical care, reduce burden and improve efficiency—furthering implementation of “record once and reuse.”
- Overarching Charge:
Produce information and considerations related to the merging of clinical and administrative data, its transport structures, rules and protections, for electronic prior authorizations to support work underway, or yet to be initiated, to achieve the vision.
- Target: Prior Authorization

ONC's HITAC ICAD Specific Charges



- Design and conduct research on emerging industry innovations to:
 - validate and extend landscape analysis and opportunities
 - invite industry to present both established and emerging end-to-end solutions for accomplishing medical and pharmacy prior authorizations that support effective care delivery reduce burden and promote efficiencies.
- Identify patient and process-focused solutions that remove roadblocks to efficient medical and pharmacy electronic prior authorization and promotes clinical and administrative data and standards convergence.
- Produce Task Force recommendations and related convergence roadmap considerations for submission to HITAC for their consideration and action. The Task Force will share deliverables with NCVHS to inform its convergence and PA activities.
- Make public a summary of its findings once task force activities are complete, no later than September 2020.

ONC's HITAC ICAD Resources



<https://www.healthit.gov/hitac/committees/intersection-clinical-and-administrative-data-task-force>

Health Information
Technology Advisory
Committee (HITAC) +

HITAC Calendar

HITAC Task Forces &
Workgroups -

Annual Report Workgroup

Conditions and Maintenance
of Certification Requirements
Task Force

Health IT for the Care
Continuum Task Force

Information Blocking Task
Force

Interoperability Standards
Priorities Task Force

Intersection of Clinical and
Administrative Data Task
Force

U.S. Core Data for
Interoperability Task Force

Trusted Exchange Framework
Task Force

Recommendations to the

Intersection of Clinical and Administrative Data Task Force

All Meetings

Vision: Support the convergence of clinical and administrative data to improve data interoperability to support clinical care, reduce burden and improve efficiency—furthering implementation of “record once and reuse.”

Overarching Charge:

- Produce information and considerations related to the merging of clinical and administrative data, its transport structures, rules and protections, for electronic prior authorizations to support work underway, or yet to be initiated, to achieve the vision.
- Leverage existing information from HITAC and NCVHS prior authorization hearings, and other sources, to inform the Task Force’s information acquisition and analysis efforts.

Member List

Alexandra (Alix) Goss, Co-Chair, Imprado Consulting, a division of DynaVet Solutions

Sheryl Turney, Co-Chair, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield

Steven Brown, Member, United States Department of Veterans Affairs

Gaspere C. Geraci, Member, Individual

Mary Greene, Member, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Jim Jirjjs, Member, Clinical Services Group of Hospital Corporation of America (HCA)

Anil K. Jain, Member, IBM Watson Health

Jocelyn Keegan, Member, Point of Care Partners

Rich Landen, Member, Individual/NCVHS

Leslie Lenert, Member, Medical University of South Carolina

Arien Malec, Member, Change Healthcare

Thomas Mason, Member, Office of the National Coordinator

Aaron Miri, Member, The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School and UT Health Austin

Jacki Monson, Member, Sutter Health/NCVHS

James Pantelas, Member, Individual

Abby Sears, Member, OCHIN

Alexis Snyder, Member, Individual

Ram Sriram, Member, National Institute of Standards and Technology

Debra Strickland, Member, Conduent/NCVHS

Sasha TerMaat, Member, Epic

Andrew Truscott, Member, Accenture

Denise Webb, Member, Individual

Thank you!

Alix Goss,

NCVHS Member and Standards
Subcommittee Co-Chair

Vice President and Senior Consultant,
Imprado, a division of DynaVet Solutions

Alix@imprado.com

717-805-0467

NCVHS Home Page:

<https://ncvhs.hhs.gov/>