

# Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange

## Strategic National Implementation Process



(SNIP)

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for

**HIPAA Administrative Simplification**

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First National HIPAA Summit

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Washington, DC

# WEDi

## Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)



✂️ HIPAA Administrative Simplification  
**SNIP the Costs**  
**SNIP the Chaos**



# WEDI Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)

## A bit of history

- ◆ WEDI report recommended industry collaboration - legislation only as a contingency (Recommendation #3 1992 WEDI Report)
- ◆ 1992 - 1996: EDI standards development and HCFA implementation for Medicare A & B
- ◆ HIPAA of 1996 A.S. identified specific EDI Transactions & Code Sets, Unique Identifiers, Security and Privacy
- ◆ NPRMs in 1998 - 1999 re-emphasized the direction and defined the health care industry common baseline target



# WEDI Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)

- ◆ WEDI Board of Directors received the proposal to create a forum to address industry issues surrounding HIPAA implementation
- ◆ Attendees at the WEDI annual conference in March expressed support of the creation of a Strategic National Implementation Process
- ◆ The WEDI BOD approved creation of SNIP and named co-chairs
- ◆ WEDI forum June 16 to form workgroups, Alexandria, VA
- ◆ Working meeting September 27-28, Phoenix, AZ



# What is SNIP?

- ◆ **An industry voluntary solution to the very real, very practical issues of interpretation and work flow inconsistencies surrounding implementation of the HIPAA standards**
- ◆ **A collaborative opportunity for early implementers to assure their interpretation is ‘correct’ (the industry ‘best fit’) and not another proprietary solution**
- ◆ **A collaborative opportunity for following implementers to benefit from the lessons learned, leader experiences**
- ◆ **Ultimate deliverable includes level-set expectations and working implemented baseline standards**



# What is SNIP?

## The Challenge

- ◆ Major obstacle to EDI implementation in Health Care is number of players:
  - 1 to 1.5 Million providers
  - >7,000 Hospitals
  - >20,000 Health Plans
  - Thousands of Other Players (Vendors, TPA's, etc.)
- ◆ “Mass deployment of EDI in Health Care introduces challenges not found in any other industry.” (1993 WEDI Report)



# What is SNIP?

## The Challenge

- ◆ Administrative Simplification requires cross-industry coordination
  - Learn from Others' Experiences
  - Coordinate Schedules of Hundreds of Trading Partners
  - Consistently Implement Standards and Codes
  - Avoid the “National Similar Format” syndrome
  - Communicate Implementation Strategies
  - Simplify Testing Process for Mass Deployment



# WEDi Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)

## Vision

SNIP is a collaborative health care industry-wide process resulting in the implementation of standards and furthering the development and implementation of future standards





# WEDI Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)

## Mission

The WEDI HIPAA SNIP Task Group has been established to meet the immediate need to assess the industry-wide HIPAA Administrative Simplification implementation readiness and to bring about the national coordination necessary for successful compliance.



# WEDI Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP) Mission (continued)

- ◆ SNIP is a forum for coordinating the necessary dialog among industry implementers of the HIPAA standards
- ◆ SNIP will identify industry “best practices” for implementation of HIPAA standards
- ◆ SNIP will identify coordination issues leading toward their resolution as industry adopted “best practices”
- ◆ SNIP will adopt a process that includes an outreach to current industry initiatives, an information gap analysis, and recommendations on additional initiatives to gap-fill



# WEDi Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)

## Purpose

- ◆ Promote general health care industry readiness to implement the HIPAA standards
- ◆ Identify education and general awareness opportunities for the health care industry to utilize
- ◆ Recommend an implementation time frame for each component of HIPAA for each stakeholder (Health Plan, Provider, Clearinghouse, Vendor) and identify the best migration paths for trading partners



# WEDI Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP)

## Purpose

- ◆ Establish opportunities for collaboration, compile industry input, and document the industry “best practices”
- ◆ Identify resolution or next steps where there are interpretation issues or ambiguities within HIPAA Administrative Simplification standards and rules
- ◆ Serve as a resource for the health care industry when resolving issues arising from HIPAA implementation



# What does WEDi SNIP look like?

- ◆ **WEDI sponsoring BOD members**
  - Lee Barrett, Chair
  - Steve Lazarus, Chair-Elect
  - Jim Schuping, Executive Vice President
  - Pat Monahan, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
  - Dave Moertel, MAYO Clinic
- ◆ **SNIP co-chairs and secretary**
  - Larry Watkins, Co-Chair, Per-Se Technologies
  - Chris Stahlecker, Co-Chair, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
  - Brian Geffert, Secretary, Deloitte & Touche LLP



# What does WEDi SNIP look like?

## ◆ SNIP Steering Committee

The above plus Workgroup co-chairs and:

- Karen Trudel, HCFA
- Stanley Nachimson, HCFA
- Mary Emerson, HCFA
- Lisa Doyle, National Medicaid EDI Work Group
- Holt Anderson, NCHICA
- Doreen Espinoza, UHIN
- Walter Suarez, MEHUG



# What does WEDi SNIP look like?

## ◆ SNIP Workgroups

### – Education and Awareness:

- Rob Tennant, MGMA
- Roger May, SMS
- Joan Boyle, RIMS Inc.

### – Security:

- Walt Culbertson, CMCeBusiness
- Sue Miller, IDX
- Frank Pokorny, ADA

### – Transactions:

- Don Bechtel, HDX
- Dave Moertel, MAYO Clinic
- Donna Nyzio, Independence  
Blue Cross



# What can you expect from WEDI SNIP?

## ◆ SNIP targeted deliverables:

- recommended schedule for addressing the transactions
- issues, decisions and rationale, recommendations for industry
- identified education opportunities
- identified security tools, techniques
- best practice recommendations





# What can you expect from WEDI SNIP?

- ◆ Web content and presentation is being drafted
- ◆ Conference call working meetings happening now
- ◆ Getting the word out with speaking opportunities
- ◆ On-going outreach to HIPAA implementers
- ◆ Additional WEDI SNIP meetings, briefings
  - **Working Meeting**  
**September 27-28, Phoenix, AZ**



# What does WEDI SNIP look like?

- ◆ **Transactions Work Group**
  - Sequencing
  - Translations
  - Data Review
  - Testing
  - Business Issues



# What does WEDI SNIP look like?

## ◆ Security Work Group

- “How to Get Started” White Paper
- 5 Sub-Work Groups
  - Awareness Training & Education
  - Audit Trails
  - Change Management / Organizational Issues
  - Certification
  - Vendor Technologies & Interdependencies



# What does WEDI SNIP look like?

## ◆ Education Work Group

- Opportunities for HIPAA Awareness
- Web Site Design & Message
- Message Development
- Review of Materials for Distribution/Posting



# How can you get involved?

- ◆ **WEDI web site: [www.WEDI.org](http://www.WEDI.org)**
- ◆ **SNIP listserv: [SNIP@WEDI.org](mailto:SNIP@WEDI.org)**
- ◆ **Questions on SNIP:**
  - [Chris.Stahlecker@BCBSA.com](mailto:Chris.Stahlecker@BCBSA.com)
  - [Larry.Watkins@Per-Se.com](mailto:Larry.Watkins@Per-Se.com)
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