

e-Signature Standards

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Thank you for allowing DrFirst to present the vendor's perspective on ePrescribing and the need for standards. We greatly appreciate the work you are doing, and believe this is a critical step in improving the deployment and adoption of electronic health care.

- DrFirst is a 4 ½ year-old company focusing on connectivity and electronic prescribing.
- There are 3 points I intend to stress today. I hope you agree with their importance. They are that connectivity is critical to efficient and safe e-Prescribing; that RxNorm should be supported for a standard naming system for e-Prescribing, and that a standard “sig” (or description of how the patient is to take a medication) will improve interoperability in electronic prescribing.

It may sound like I'm talking from a physician's point of view, but we are a physician-centric company. In order to be successful with Medical IT, physicians have to adopt and use the software.

Core Tenets

- Integrity
- Security
- Non-repudiation
- Cost effective

Methodologies

- Public-Key/Private-Key Infrastructure (PKI)
- Biometrics
- User ID/Password/PIN

PKI

- Complex
- Certification Authority
 - Complex to maintain
 - Update, expire, revoke certificates
 - Expensive
- Not proven in large, complex system

Biometrics

- Accuracy
- Cost
- Availability
- Workflow

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User ID/Password/PIN

- Secure
- Cost-effective
- Accepted
- Legacy systems

Recommendations

- User IDs/Passwords/PINs
 - Encompass existing standards
 - Leave room for new technologies
- National (master) database of providers



Thank You

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