



**American Hospital
Association**

Standards Accomplishments and Next Steps

**Rod Piechowski, Senior Associate Director, Policy
NCVHS February 24, 2009**

Where we have been

- Organized around a process
 - ONC
 - CCHIT
 - AHIC
 - HITSP

Accomplishments

- Created a workflow and structure
 - AHIC use cases
 - HITSP harmonizes to match
 - Secretary recognizes
 - CCHIT certifies (150 + products)

Accomplishments

- Engaged 100s of stakeholders
- Built a foundation
 - Now better able to link goals to measurable progress

Accomplishments

- Established leadership
- Technical harmonization
- Established trust

Remaining challenges

- First steps of long journey
- Establish visionary leadership
- Technology / Policy relationship

Remaining challenges

- Quality metrics
- Data standards
- Supply chain / UDI
- DEA issues
- Coordination of all

Remaining challenges

- Unique patient identifier
 - Mandated by HIPAA
 - Reframed as a privacy issue
 - Privacy separate concept
- Technology cannot:
 - Manage behavior
 - Eliminate human factor (lost disks, etc.)
 - Change past experiences (e.g. SSN)

Remaining challenges

- Technology can:
 - Manage information efficiently
 - Encrypt data
 - Audit events
 - ID is essential element of relational databases
 - Without it we introduce uncertainty, risk and threaten patient safety
- In a perfect world:
 - Would not stigmatize disease
 - Use information to deny or ration care

Continued process

- Government leadership required
- Wide range of participants
- Engage knowledgeable HC leadership
- Look to the future
 - Identify future state
 - Build systems that enable future state
 - Recognize the evolutionary process
 - Patience
 - Collaboration

Conclusion

- **Simplicity:**
 - Think long-term
 - Create a plan
 - Coordinate the tasks and players
 - Prepare for culture shock
 - Tell the story
 - Measure the results
 - Tell the story again ...