

stage for future directions toward the strategic vision.

The Subcommittee on Standards drafted a suite of potential actions for consideration for near-term improvement of the current standards development and rulemaking processes informed by the August 21, 2021, Listening Session.⁴ The Committee is seeking reaction to this draft set of actions from potential end-users, standards development organizations (SDOs), trade and professional organizations, and other members of the public. The purpose of this meeting is to provide a public forum to obtain this feedback. Based on that input, the Subcommittee anticipates developing recommendations for consideration by the full Committee. The draft considerations and supporting context may be viewed on the NCVHS website at <https://ncvhs.hhs.gov/Draft-Convergence-2-dot-0>.

Summary

Subtitle F (Administrative Simplification) of HIPAA promoted the transition of routine business processes of health care from mailing and faxing of paper documents to electronic exchange of standardized data. Health data flows, standards, technology, and communications infrastructure have all evolved radically since HIPAA introduced the concept of national standards to health care administration. Consistent with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology's (ONC) Federal Health Information Technology Strategic Plan,⁵ the Subcommittee is investigating what would be necessary to prepare the U.S. health care system for its next leap forward. The Subcommittee is proposing for industry feedback actions to further a comprehensive, integrated health information ecosystem that incorporates claims, administrative records, digital medical records, public health data, and data about a patient's social risk. These proposed actions include specific updating of standardization processes under HIPAA to accommodate new business models, technologies, and information needs, while protecting investments in legacy standards that have demonstrably succeeded in

producing HIPAA's intended efficiencies and cost reductions.

As noted above, to inform this rethinking and updating, NCVHS' Convergence 2.0 project solicited input from industry on the HIPAA regulatory framework and the standards update processes in a public Listening Session on August 25, 2021. During the Listening Session, representatives of industry testified that current processes do not fit with the cadence needed to meet their business needs. They further advocated that options and alternatives for a modernized framework should be considered to support current and future needs, including additional harmonization of clinical, public health (including vital records), and other standards with HIPAA standards. The implication is that options or alternatives would need to consider significant portions of work done by ONC and its Health Information Technology Advisory Committee on electronic health records, data exchange networks, and an interoperability framework.

Based on its analysis of the input of expert panels and members of the public who responded to a Request for Public Comment,⁶ the Committee continues to investigate whether the HIPAA framework is in need of modernization.

The Committee will invite statements from representatives of stakeholder organizations, and the agenda also will include time for public comment. Meeting times and topics are subject to change. Please refer to the agenda posted at the NCVHS website for this meeting for updates at: <https://ncvhs.hhs.gov/meetings/standards-subcommittee-meeting-3/>.

Sharon Arnold,

Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary, Science and Data Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Microbiology, Infectious Diseases and AIDS Initial Review Group; Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research Study Section Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research Study Section.

Date: June 16–17, 2022.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3F40A, Rockville, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Robert C. Unfer, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3F40A, Rockville, MD 20852, (240) 669–5035, robert.unfer@nih.gov. (Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: May 19, 2022.

Tyeshia M. Roberson-Curtis,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

⁴ NCVHS Listening Session on Healthcare Standards Development, Adoption and Implementation, Aug. 25, 2021. Agenda, audio recording, transcript, and other meeting materials are available at: <https://ncvhs.hhs.gov/meetings/standards-subcommittee-listening-session/>.

⁵ ONC, Ofc. of the Sec'y, U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, 2020–2025 Federal Health IT Strategic Plan (Oct. 2020), available at <https://www.healthit.gov/topic/2020-2025-federal-health-it-strategic-plan>.

⁶ See U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Svcs., NCVHS, Notice of Meeting and Request for Public Comment, 86 FR 33318 (June 24, 2021), available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-06-24/pdf/2021-13334.pdf>; "Comments Received in Response to Request for Comment: **Federal Register** Notice: 86 FR 33318," available at <https://ncvhs.hhs.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Public-Comments-Standards-Subcommittee-Listening-Session-August-25-2021.pdf>.