Acronyms and Terms Related to Electronic Health Records

ACRONYMS

ANSI American National Standards Institute
APHL Association of Public Health Laboratories
ARRA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
CAH Critical Access Hospital
CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CFR Code of Federal Regulations
CLIA Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988
CMS Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CQM Clinical Quality Measure
DHHS Department of Health and Human Services
EP Eligible Professionals
EHR Electronic Health Record
ELR Electronic Laboratory Reporting
EMR Electronic Medical Record
FACA Federal Advisory Committee Act
FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration
FHIMS Federal Health Interoperability Modeling and Standards
FR Federal Register
HIE Health Information Exchange
HIT Health Information Technology
HITSC Health IT Standards Committee
HITPC Health IT Policy Committee
HITECH Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act
HIPAA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HL7 Health Level Seven
IT Information Technology
LIS Laboratory Information System
LOINC Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes
LRI Laboratory Results Interface (specifically in relation to an ONC workgroup)
LRR Laboratory Results Reporting
MU Meaningful Use
NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology
NwHIN Nationwide Health Information Network (formerly NHIN)
OCR Office of Civil Rights
ONC Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, aka ONC-HIT
ONC–AA ONC–Approved Accreditor
ONC–ACB ONC–Authorized Certification Body
ONC–ATCB ONC–Authorized Testing and Certification Body
PHIN Public Health Information Network
PHITPO Public Health Informatics and Technology Program Office (at CDC)
PHR Personal Health Record
PMR Personal Medical Record
RHIO Regional Health Information Organization
REC Regional Extension Centers
SNOMED–CT Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms
VLER Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record

TERMS

Certified Electronic Health Record - An electronic health record or module of an electronic health record that has been reviewed by an ONC–Authorized Testing and Certification Body (ONC–ATCB) and determined to be compliant with the standards set forth in the Health Information Technology Standards and Certification requirements (45 CFR 170). Meaningful use incentive payments require participating hospitals and providers to use certified electronic health record systems.

Electronic Health Record (EHR) – 1. An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that conforms to nationally recognized interoperability standards and that can be created, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff across more than one health care organization. (Reference 1, pg 17)
2. A comprehensive, structured set of clinical, demographic, environmental, social, and financial data and information in electronic form, documenting the health care given to a single individual. (Reference 2, pg 8)

Electronic Health Record System (EHR-S) - An information technology system designed to store and manage Electronic Health Records.

Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) - The transmission of data of public health importance (specifically notifiable diseases) from clinical laboratories to public health agencies using electronic format and data specifications defined by public health partners.

Electronic Medical Record (EMR) - An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that can be created, gathered, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff within one health care organization. (Reference 1, pg 16)

Federal Health Interoperability Modeling and Standards (FHIMS) - Federal initiative intended to coordinate the efforts of the partner agencies with respect to information and terminology standards.

Health Information Exchange (HIE) - The electronic movement of health-related information across organizations within a region, community or hospital system and according to nationally recognized standards.

Interoperability - Refers to the ability of health information systems to work together within and across organizational boundaries in order to advance the effective delivery of healthcare for individuals and communities.

Laboratory Results Interface (LRI) Initiative - An initiative under the S&I framework tasked with addressing interface interoperability challenges associated with laboratory reporting to ambulatory primary care providers. Challenges include mapping, interface configuration, and harmonization of core subsets of LOINC codes.

Laboratory Results Reporting (LRR) - The transmission of laboratory results in an electronic format from a clinical laboratory to Electronic Health Record System (EHR-S) for association with a patient's electronic health record (EHR).

Meaningful Use (MU) - Federal incentive program and regulations administered by CMS defining the minimum requirements that providers must meet through their use of certified EHR technology in order to qualify for the payments.

Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN) - A federal initiative for the exchange of healthcare information that supports meaningful use, being developed under the auspices of the U.S. Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). Formerly also known as NHIN.

ONC–Approved Accreditor (ONC–AA) - An accreditation organization approved by the National Coordinator to accredit electronic health record certification bodies under the permanent certification program, namely the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

ONC–Authorized Certification Body (ONC–ACB) - An organization or a consortium of organizations that has applied to and been authorized by the National Coordinator to perform the certification of Complete EHRs, EHR Module(s), and/or other types of health information technology under the _permanent_ certification program.

ONC–Authorized Testing and Certification Body (ONC–ATCB) - An organization or a consortium of organizations that has applied to and been authorized by the National Coordinator to perform the testing and certification of Complete EHRs and/or EHR Modules under the _temporary_ certification program.

ONC Permanent Certification Program - A program that provides a way for the Office of the National Coordinator to authorize organizations to test and certify electronic health record (EHR) technology. The permanent certification program will eventually replace the temporary certification program, as early as December 31, 2011.

ONC Temporary Certification Program - A temporary program that provides a way for the Office of the National Coordinator to authorize organizations to test and certify electronic health record (EHR) technology. The permanent certification program will eventually replace the temporary certification program, as early as December 31, 2011.

Personal Health Record (PHR) - An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that conforms to nationally recognized interoperability standards and that can be drawn from multiple sources while being managed, shared, and controlled by that individual. (Reference 1, pg 19)

Personal Medical Record (PMR) – See PHR. Terms used interchangeably.

Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO) – An organization that brings together health care stakeholders within a defined geographic area and governs health information exchange (HIE) among them for the purpose of improving health and care in that community. RHIOs are a component of the structure intended to implement the Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN).

Standards and Interoperability (S&I) Framework - A set of integrated functions, processes, and tools being guided by the healthcare and technology industry to achieve harmonized interoperability for healthcare information exchange.

Surescripts - Private company authorized to test and certify EHR modules. One of six ONC-Authorized Testing and Certification Bodies. Awarded CDC grant, along with the College of American Pathology (CAP) and the American Hospital Association (AHA), to electronically link hospital laboratories and public health agencies to support meaningful use.

Technology Transfer & Technology Transfer Office – Government agency function and office intended to support collaboration and transfer of federal technology to the commercial marketplace and/or research community.

Tiger Team - A group of experts assigned to investigate and/or solve technical or systemic problems, particularly in relation to security. (Reference 9)

Sources:
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4. Office of the National Coordinator for Healthcare Information Technology, Harmonized Use Case for Electronic Health Records (Laboratory Result Reporting), March 19, 2006
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