eVitals Standards Initiative:
Remarks at the National Committee for Vital and Health Statistics

DELTON ATKINSON, MPH, MPH, PMP
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS
CDC/NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
Goal: *Strengthen the National Vital Statistics Program*
Goal: *Strengthen the National Vital Statistics Program*

**Objectives:**
- Improve the timeliness, accuracy and completeness of vital statistics data
- Expand the use of vital statistics data for surveillance and health services research
Goal: Strengthen the National Vital Statistics Program

Objective:
- Improve the timeliness, accuracy and completeness of vital statistics data.

Major Initiatives:
- Enhanced state-based network of electronic death registration systems
- Next Generation Electronic Death Registration System
- VIEWS (Validation and Interactive Edit Web Service)
- Quality projects:
  - Review of quality of data items on birth and death certificates and fetal death reports
  - Cause of death audit/evaluation
  - Evaluation of the improvement in cause of death as a result of VIEWS
  - Creation of E-Learning systems for both births and deaths
- E-Vitals
eVitals Project

Objective
◦ Enable the electronic transfer of birth, death and fetal death information between electronic health records and electronic vital event systems

Current Environment
◦ Separate electric data systems, each with own user id and password. No interoperability.
◦ Manual copying of key data elements from medical records for entry into vital records systems
◦ Redundant data entry ----increased risk of errors.

Hypothesis
◦ Improvement in timeliness, quality and accuracy of information
◦ Data collection to be more standardized
◦ Reduction in data entry and less costs for both the hospitals and states

Standards
◦ National standards have been approved by Health Level 7 International (HL7) organization as drafts