

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE OF CONNECTICUT

Advisory Committee on Patient Privacy and Security Regular Meeting

**MEETING MINUTES FOR
Wednesday, January 11, 2012**

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

*Legislative Office Building, Room 1A
300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford*

The meeting commenced at 12:40 p.m.

Members present:

Ellen Andrews, Steven Casey, Audrey Chapman (by phone), Michelle DeBarge (Chair), Robert McLean, and Victoria Veltri.

Members not present:

Ludwig Johnson

1. Opening Remarks and Introductions

Michelle DeBarge welcomed the Committee members and members of the public. The Committee members introduced themselves. Michelle encouraged public participation and discussion at this meeting and future meetings. Per the Committee's enabling legislation, the Committee membership should include a representative of an insurer or health plan. Michelle encouraged those present to propose names to offer to Commission Mullen, who is charged with appointing members to the Committee.

2. Status of HITE-CT

DPH attorney Marianne Horn gave a brief overview of the status of HITE-CT, including an overview of the Board composition and HITE-CT committees. HITE-CT just recently hired a CEO, Dave Gilbertson. A vendor has been hired to develop the HITE-CT technological infrastructure. The Board has approved various policies and procedures, which are on the DPH website. Soon HITE-CT will have its own website separate from the DPH website. Michelle reported that she has spoken with Dave, and he offered to come to the next meeting to provide more information about the HITE-CT, including more details about the technology, policies and

procedures, and consent model. The Committee members agreed that it would be useful to have Dave attend the next meeting. Michelle will extend the invitation. Michelle will also ask Dave whether it is feasible for the vendor to provide a demo to the group at the next meeting.

3. Mandate of the Committee

The Committee's enabling legislation was distributed to all present and read aloud as follows:

"The advisory committee shall monitor developments in federal law concerning patient privacy and security relating to health information technology and shall report to the board on national and regional trends and federal policies and guidance set forth in this area. The board shall include information supplied by the advisory committee in the report submitted by the board pursuant to subsection (i) of this section." PS 11-242, §75 (h).

Ellen Andrews expressed a different view of the Committee's role, indicating that the Committee should revisit the consent model as a core focus of its efforts.

There was much discussion about the mandate of the Committee both by the Committee members and members of the public. There was discussion about the scope of "privacy and security" and that addressing privacy and security goes beyond discussion of a particular consent model and includes security safeguards, patient education, and provider education.

Several other Committee members and members of the public felt it was important to address the current consent model adopted by the HITE-CT board as a focus of the Committee's efforts and that how one addresses other privacy and security issues flows from the model chosen.

Michelle emphasized the need to address the legislative mandate as the charge of the Committee (monitor federal law developments and report to the HITE-CT Board on regional and national trends) and that discussion of the consent model and related issues should be in the context of that charge.

4. Next Steps

The Committee will collect and review various documents that provide background information on privacy and security in the area of health information exchange from a national/regional perspective.

Michelle will send the documents she has collected as well as the current HITE-CT policies and procedures that are posted on DPH's website. Ellen mentioned that Vermont recently changed its consent model from an opt out to an opt in model. She will obtain information on that topic for the next meeting. Audrey Chapman will look to see if she has any helpful articles that address ethical considerations.

Members of the public asked to receive the background materials that will be distributed to the Committee members. Michelle agreed to send the materials to all those present who were interested in receiving the materials.

5. Public Comment

Members of the public participated in the discussion throughout the meeting. There were no additional comments for this section of the agenda.

6. Meeting Schedule

The Committee members expressed the desire to meet in two weeks. The next meeting is January 25 from 3:30-5:00 at the LOB. Room number TBD. Future meeting schedule TBD.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

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