HIT Glossary of Terms

- AA&NHOPI: an AAPCHO defined acronym referring to the collective population consisting of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders. The change from the term AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) is an effort to better recognize the diversity of the AA&NHOPI populations and to acknowledge the unique health issues facing each group.

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): a legislative act passed in 2009 as a direct response to the economic crisis. The primary goals of ARRA aims to: create new jobs and save existing ones; spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth; and foster unprecedented levels of accountability and transparency in government spending.

- Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO): a national, non-for-profit organization that represents community health centers (CHCs) that deliver accessible, high quality, and affordable primary and preventative care to medically underserved AA&NHOPI populations.

- Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS): a U.S. government agency that administers Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

- Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology (CCHIT): a recognized certification body (RCB) for electronic health records and their networks.

- Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE): Software used by physicians to electronically submit requests for diagnostic exams/tests and receive test results electronically. Can be used in an inpatient setting or an outpatient setting, assuming the clinical departments conducting the exams/tests are capable of transmitting electronic messages to the physician's system.

- Data Repository: the clinical data repository is a name for the database where all the information about a patient resides. It includes such information as X-rays, blood test results, medications and care notes. The repository is a continuous, ongoing record of a patient's medical history. Although often used synonymously with data warehouse, a repository does not have the analysis or querying capabilities of a warehouse.

- Data Warehouse: A large database that stores information like a data repository but goes a step further, allowing users to access data to perform research-oriented analysis.

- Decision Support: Computer application to assist in clinical decisions by providing evidence-based knowledge in the context of patient-specific data.

- Electronic Health Records (EHR): a longitudinal collection of electronic health information that serves as a legal medical record, which includes documentation, vital signs, and assessments. In addition, it is 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.

- Electronic Medical Records (EMR): sometimes used interchangeably with Electronic Health Records (EHR), but EMRs may not be interoperable outside of the "home" enterprise. In other words, EMRs may not be transferrable to other EMR systems, whereas the term EHR implies a level of interoperability with other EMRs. The implication of "Health" rather than "Medical" record in the term EHR is that it is a

longitudinal record across time and providers. The EHR is generally not considered "owned" by any one physician because the information is not generally sourced by a single provider.

- Electronic Prescribing (E-Prescribing): Medications that are electronically entered and transmitted by prescriber directly to a pharmacy.
- Health and Human Services (HHS): a departmental and cabinet agency of the United States Government that is responsible for overseeing the implementation of EMR/EHRs under the HITECT Act. The goal of HHS is to protect the health of all Americans and provide essential human services.
- Health Informatics: Health Informatics is the use of computers and information management in a health care setting. † Things that fall under the banner of health informatics include EMRs, medical coding systems, practice management software and medical records management.
- Health Information Exchange (HIE): electronic movement of health-related information among organizations.
- Health Information Technology (HIT): technology used to maintain health information in an electronic format.
- Health Information Technology & Economic and Clinical Act (HITECH): enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to create financial incentives, in the form of additional reimbursement, for providers who demonstrate "meaningful use" of health information technology (HIT).
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): the federal and primary governmental agency that seeks to improve access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated, or medically vulnerable.
- Interoperability: The ability of clinical or patient data to transfer between providers in various settings and their various software packages. If a physician's EMR is not interoperable, physicians would only be able to access information within their own EMR application's database.
- Meaningful Use: the use of Electronic Health Records (EHR) by providers to achieve significant improvements in care.
- Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC): ONC provides leadership for the development and nationwide implementation of an interoperable health information technology infrastructure to improve the quality and efficiency of health care and the ability of consumers to manage their care and safety.
- Pay for Performance: Pay for Performance programs are incentive programs that provide monetary bonuses or non-financial benefits to physician practices that make progress in achieving or attaining specific quality and/or efficiency (cost of care) benchmarks or standards that are established by the program.
- Pay for Use: Some health payers will reward physicians for adopting Health IT such as E-prescribing or EMRs. These programs are less common than Pay for Performance.
- Personal Health Records (PHR): The PHR includes data such as critical current health and medical history information. It also includes information that is tracked by the patient such as personal health maintenance and over the counter medications. For example, it would include daily tracking of insulin levels for diabetics.

Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)

- Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO): RHIOs provide the organizational and technical infrastructure to exchange data among health care providers in a geographic region.

Sources

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