DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HIT Policy Committee Advisory Meeting: Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). The meeting will be open to the public.

Name of Committee: HIT Policy Committee.

General Function of the Committee: To provide recommendations to the National Coordinator on a policy framework for the development and adoption of a nationwide health information technology infrastructure that permits the electronic exchange and use of health information as is consistent with the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan and that includes recommendations on the areas in which standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria are needed.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on January 25, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Time.


Contact Person: Mary Jo Deering, Office of the National Coordinator, HHS, 330 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20201, (202) 260–1944, Fax: (202) 690–6079, email: maryjo.deering@hhs.gov. Please call the contact person for up-to-date information on this meeting. A notice in the Federal Register about last minute modifications that impact a previously announced advisory committee meeting cannot always be published quickly enough to provide timely notice.

Agenda: The committee will hear reports from its workgroups, including the Meaningful Use Workgroup, and updates from ONC and other Federal agencies. ONC intends to make the background material available to the public no later than two (2) business days prior to the meeting. If ONC is unable to post the background material on its Web site prior to the meeting, it will be made publicly available at the location of the advisory committee meeting, and the background material will be posted on ONC’s Web site after the meeting, at http://healthit.hhs.gov.

Procedure: Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the workgroups. Written submissions may be made to the contact person on or before two days prior to the workgroup’s meeting date. Oral comments from the public will be scheduled at the conclusion of each workgroup meeting. Time allotted for each presentation will be limited to three minutes. If the number of speakers requesting to comment is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the scheduled open public session, ONC will take written comments after the meeting until close of business on that day.

Persons attending ONC’s advisory committee meetings are advised that the agency is not responsible for providing access to electrical outlets.

ONC welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings. Seating is limited at the location, and ONC will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Mary Jo Deering at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

ONC is committed to the orderly conduct of its advisory committee meetings. Please visit our Web site at http://healthit.hhs.gov for procedures on public conduct during advisory committee meetings.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 5 U.S.C., App. 2).

Dated: December 15, 2011.

Mary Jo Deering,
Office of Policy and Planning, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HIT Standards Committee Advisory Meeting: Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). The meeting will be open to the public.

Name of Committee: HIT Standards Committee.

General Function of the Committee: To provide recommendations to the National Coordinator on standards, implementation specifications, and certification criteria for the electronic exchange and use of health information for purposes of adoption, consistent with the implementation of the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan, and in accordance with policies developed by the HIT Policy Committee.

Date and Time: The meeting will be held on January 25, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Time.


Contact Person: Mary Jo Deering, Office of the National Coordinator, HHS, 330 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20201, (202) 260–1944, Fax: (202) 690–6079, email: maryjo.deering@hhs.gov. Please call the contact person for up-to-date information on this meeting. A notice in the Federal Register about last minute modifications that impact a previously announced advisory committee meeting cannot always be published quickly enough to provide timely notice.

Agenda: The committee will hear reports from its workgroups, including the Clinical Operations, Vocabulary Task Force, Clinical Quality, Implementation, and Enrollment Workgroups. ONC intends to make the background material available to the public no later than two (2) business days prior to the meeting. If ONC is unable to post the background material on its Web site prior to
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records Notice

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of the Secretary (OS), Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC).

ACTION: Notice to establish a new system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, HHS/OS/ONC is establishing a new system of records, “ONC Health IT Dashboard,” to create datasets that will be used by ONC and its partners (including grantees in the Health IT Extension Center program and ONC program evaluation contractors) to assess, improve, and publicize the effectiveness of ONC health IT grants to States and State-designated entities. The datasets will enable ONC to (1) Evaluate the state of health IT implementation by parties registered to receive (i.e., who have received or could receive) electronic health record implementation assistance from ONC grantees, (2) compare the evaluations to grantees’ progress reports in order to validate claims submitted for grant payments, (3) share the evaluations with the grantees to help improve grant performance, and (4) make aggregate data (e.g., national and State-level implementation estimates) publicly available on ONC’s Web site at http://www.healthit.hhs.gov.

The parties receiving grants and health IT implementation assistance from ONC grantees include health care providers (not only provider-entities such as hospitals, but individual providers such as individual physicians), community colleges, State-designated entities, and other entities. Information about an individual provider (e.g., an individual physician as opposed to a hospital, corporation or other organization) is protected by the Privacy Act. Privacy Act-protected information about each individual provider will consist of the provider’s health IT implementation information, demographic information, and contact information, retrieved by his or her National Provider Identifier (NPI). The system will not contain information about patients. The system of records is more thoroughly described in the Supplementary Information section and System of Records Notice (SORN), below.

DATES: Effective Dates: Effective 30 days after publication. Written comments should be submitted on or before the effective date. HHS/OS/ONC may publish an amended System of Records Notice (SORN) in light of any comments received.

ADDRESSES: The public should send written comments to: ONC Dashboard Administrator, ONCRequest@HHS.gov, 200 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Email: ONCRequest@HHS.gov. Telephone: 1–(202) 690–7151, 200 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20201.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. ONC Health IT Dashboard

The Office of the National Coordinator is establishing the “ONC Health IT Dashboard” system as part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service’s (HHS) implementation of the Open Government Directive issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on December 8, 2009 (OMB Memorandum M–10–06). The purpose of the system is to advance open government principles and facilitate three programmatic objectives: (1) Aggregate data to create national- and State-level estimates about health IT adoption, (2) identify participants in other HHS health IT-related programs that could be assisted by ONC grantees, and (3) verify the integrity of grant payments made to ONC grantees.

The Dashboard system will enable ONC to create datasets using data from two types of sources: (1) Data created during the administration of ONC grant programs or obtained from ONC partners administering other Federal IT-related grant programs, and (2) data procured from private vendors that monitor health IT adoption trends and activity. The Dashboard system is divided into two interfaces: an internal system used by ONC researchers to create and analyze said datasets, and a public-facing Open Government Internet site that will contain de-identified State-level summary statistics derived from said datasets, and pre-configured graphs, charts, and maps displaying the summarized data.

Individually-identifying information in the Dashboard system will pertain to individual office-based health care providers who are enrolled with the ONC Health IT Regional Extension Centers (RECs) and/or participate in other Federal IT-related grant programs, such as the CMS Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive programs. Privacy Act-protected information in this system will consist of an individual provider’s contact information, demographic information, and health IT implementation information, retrieved by the provider’s National Provider Identifier (NPI). Examples of records from which this information will be obtained include:

- Records from private vendors that monitor health IT adoption trends and activity, which include provider-level information such as contact and demographic information and characteristics of the electronic health records (EHR) systems and functionalities in use at the provider’s site.
- ONC REC Program grant administration records, which contains the NPI, contact information, and demographic information for providers that are enrolled with ONC RECs.