

**Collaborative for Performance Measure Integration with EHR Systems
Meeting Summary
October 16, 2008**

The Collaborative for Performance Measure Integration with EHR Systems (Collaborative) held its second 2008 meeting on October 16. Co-sponsors of the Collaborative include the American Medical Association, the Health Information Management and Systems Society's Electronic Health Record Association, and the National Committee for Quality Assurance.

Meeting objectives

- Gain an increased understanding of the objectives, progress and current work of the Collaborative for Performance Measure Integration with EHR Systems
- Discuss achievements and issues in the technical development and refinement of the XML schema and Reference Guide
- Discuss achievements of measure users and issues in implementation of performance measures using EHRs
- Discuss with speakers and reactor panel the broader strategic landscape of quality measurement using EHRs
- Contribute to future planning of Collaborative activities

Keynote address and speakers

David R. Hunt, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Office of Health Information Technology Adoption, Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology, gave the keynote address.

Several experienced EHR users provided updates on their efforts in implementing performance measures in EHRs:

- David Baker, MD and Stephen Persell, MD
Northwestern University
- Erin Kaleba, MPH
Alliance of Chicago Community Health Services
- Randolph C. Barrows, Jr., MD, MS
Medallies / QRDA
- David Dorr, MD
Oregon Health & Science University
- Micky Tripathi, PhD
Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative

A reactor panel, which included the following, commented on issues raised by experienced EHR users:

- David R. Hunt, MD
Office of the National Coordinator of Health IT
- Floyd Eisenberg, MD
National Quality Forum / IHE / HITSP
- Sarah Corley, MD
Electronic Health Record Association
- Danny Rosenthal, MD
National Quality Forum

Key takeaways

Although the XML format for EHR measure specifications needs further testing, the XML format is believed by EHR vendors to be the best available means for expressing and transmitting to them EHR measure specifications. EHRA will take the lead on further testing of the XML-formatted EHR specifications and will lead an effort to submit the XML-formatted EHR specifications to an SDO (standards development organization).

AMA and NCQA will work with vendors, NQF and CMS to harmonize EHR measure specifications and to align measure priorities with EHR capabilities. AMA and NCQA also will continue to participate in AHRQ-initiated discussions about clinical practice guidelines, clinical decision support and performance measures and to coordinate Collaborative efforts with outcomes from AHRQ-initiated discussions.

More effort should be made to assure that the design of EHRs better takes into consideration workflow and consistent use of terminology and concepts. Where workflow changes are needed that require the redesign of workflow, changes should be made first around the needs of caring for patients.

Interest was expressed by the Collaborative co-sponsors and its members for the Collaborative to talk with CMS about the Collaborative serving as a “users group” to ensure that performance measures are consistently implemented across EHR products.

Next steps

Working with EHRA, continue to finalize and document completion of the defined Collaborative EHR measure specification test plan.

The AMA and NCQA will set up a strategic planning meeting with CMS to discuss the possibility of initiating an expert EHR users group.

Access to October 16, 2008 meeting materials

Meeting materials from the October 16, 2008, meeting are accessible at:
www.ama-assn.org/go/collaborative.