



Pharmacy Health Information Technology Collaborative

Via Electronic Submission to: <http://www.regulations.org>

May 29, 2015

Michael Lipinski
Office of Policy
Office of the National Coordinator
for Health Information Technology
Department of Health and Human Services
Attention: 2015 Edition Health IT Certification Proposed Rule
Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Suite 729D
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

**Re: RIN 0991-AB93 – 2015 Health Information Technology (HIT) Certification Criteria,
2015 Edition Base Electronic Record (EHR) Definition, and ONC Health IT Certification**

Dear Mr. Lipinski:

On behalf of the membership of the Pharmacy Health Information Technology Collaborative (Collaborative), we are pleased to submit comments in response to the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology's *2015 Edition Health IT Certification Proposed Rule*.

The Collaborative and its member organizations are supportive of continued certification criteria and standards for health IT and EHR. The Collaborative has been involved with the ONC and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services since the early development of these standards and criteria as they apply to the Meaningful Use EHR Incentive Program and their affect on non-eligible pharmacist health care providers.

Although pharmacists are not eligible for EHR incentives, they will need to exchange information with secure and certified EHR systems to connect to and ensure needed bidirectional communication with eligible providers. Pharmacists provide patient-centered care and services, and as part of the integrated health care team, they are directly involved with patients in various practice settings.

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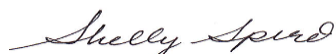
| 401 Holland Lane Suite 702 | Alexandria, VA, 22314 | www.pharmacyHIT.org | 703-599-5051 |

The Pharmacy HIT Collaborative's vision and mission are to assure the nation's health care system is supported by meaningful use of HIT, the integration of pharmacists for the provision of quality patient care, and to advocate and educate key stakeholders regarding the meaningful use of HIT and the inclusion of pharmacists within a technology-enabled integrated health care system. The Collaborative was formed in the fall of 2010 by nine pharmacy professional associations, representing 250,000 members, and also includes eight associate members from other pharmacy-related organizations. The Pharmacy HIT Collaborative's founding organizations represent pharmacists in all patient care settings and other facets of pharmacy, including pharmacy education and pharmacy education accreditation. The Collaborative's Associate Members represent e-prescribing and health information networks, a standards development organization, transaction processing networks, pharmacy companies, system vendors and other organizations that support pharmacists' services. For additional information, visit www.pharmacyhit.org

On behalf of the Pharmacy HIT Collaborative, thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the *2015 Edition Health IT Certification Proposed Rule*.

For more information, contact Shelly Spiro, Executive Director, Pharmacy HIT Collaborative, at shelly@pharmacyhit.org.

Respectfully submitted,



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