

EHR Association

Presentation to HITAC

Intersection of Clinical & Administrative Data Task Force

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The EHR Association's 30 member companies serve the vast majority of hospitals, post-acute, specialty-specific, and ambulatory healthcare providers using EHRs across the United States.

Our core objectives focus on collaborative efforts to accelerate health information and technology adoption, advance information exchange between interoperable systems, and improve the quality and efficiency of care through the use of these important technologies.

We agree that there is a need to streamline the prior authorization process

- ePrior Authorization for prescription medications is more widespread due to integration with payers through CoverMyMeds and Surescripts
- CMS moving toward adoption of v2017071 of the NCPDP SCRIPT standard for Part D plans
- ePrior Authorization for all other medical services has been lagging

- Level of detail at which prior authorization is required, e.g. procedures, tests, DME, services
- Lack of standard data requirements and granularity across payers (federal, state, commercial)
- Lack of efficient data-exchange technology by payers
- Data capture and workflow integration

- EHRs capture much of the relevant data for prior authorization, but:
 - Need for prior authorization often not known at time of order
 - Prior authorization often requires additional documentation beyond what is needed for treatment
 - Need for additional documentation often not known at time of order
 - Relevant data may be in a different system or format, such as relevant PDF or C-CDA documents
 - Potential lags in accessing and exchanging with payer systems
- Challenges are frequently projected onto the EHR rather than on the source requiring further documentation

- Establish authorization at a higher level than procedure/service/test/DME
- Integrate ePA process within EHR workflow; avoid reliance on separate payer/3rd party portals
- Automate data capture and prior authorization requests
- Adoption of technologies/standards better suited to real time interactions across systems, e.g., CDS Hooks, RESTful, HL7[®] FHIR[®], and SMART[®]

