



September 5, 2014

Dear Esteemed Panel,

On behalf of the American Council for Technology and the Industry Advisory Council (ACT-IAC), the planning committee of the Federal Healthcare Working Group is pleased that you have agreed to participate in our upcoming, inaugural Health IT Forum, ***Health Informatics and the Business of Healthcare***.

This event is designed to initiate the creation of a community of interest comprised of federal and industry leaders committed to supporting, through collaborative engagement and actionable dialogue, the federal healthcare community. We are committed to identifying and solving the business challenges associated with health informatics (including population health, patient engagement, Meaningful Use, interoperability and accountability) through the long-standing public, private partnership between ACT-IAC and the federal government.

The Forum, as you know, is scheduled for **September 24th, 2014** at the **Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill**, located at 400 New Jersey Ave., NW, Washington, DC, from 8:00am to 12:00pm. We anticipate over 100 attendees at this event, and as always for ACT-IAC Program Events, Government registration is free.

The opening plenary will begin at 8am, and will feature Dr. Karen DeSalvo (National Coordinator for Health IT, Department of Health and Human Services), David M. Bowen (Director of the Health IT Directorate for the Defense Health Agency and Chief Information Officer for the Military Health System), Ryan Panchadsaram (Senior Advisor to the U.S. Chief Technology Officer—*invited*) and Dr. Theresa Cullen, Chief Medical Information Officer for the Veterans Health Administration. After the one-hour session outlining the overall challenges, two concurrent panels will be facilitated.

The audience will be divided into two groups to participate in the sequential breakout sessions. One will focus on Business Transformation, and the other on Data Standards and Quality. Each panel will include expertise, represented by each of you, focused on Analytics/Informatics, Human Capital, Interoperability, Metrics and Security/Privacy. Participants will select a breakout session and participate in an interactive dialogue with your panels for one hour. Following the conclusion of the first hour, audience members switch rooms and participate in the dialogue of the other panel, enabling each participant to engage with each of you, each other, and addressing all related topics. At the end of the two, one-hour panel sessions, the entire group will reconvene for a debriefing.

Finally, the ACT-IAC Federal Healthcare Working Group, at the direction of Dr. Cullen and industry partners, will aggregate all inputs, prioritize action items, and begin the process of engagement to enable a continuum for addressing the key identified challenges.

We would like to convene a planning session with each of you, together, on Thursday, September 11th, to ensure you have the information you need in order to be prepared for the discussion on the 24th. A brief, half-hour call will be set up and details provided later this week. Please contact [Reggie Humphries](#) if you have any questions or require assistance.

We are grateful to each of you for your commitment to such an important topic and initiative. We look forward to engaging with you.

Warmest Regards,



Dr. Theresa Cullen
CMIO, VHA



Joel A. Horwitz
Vice President, Federal Health
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IAC Industry Chair, Federal Healthcare Working Group