



American National Standards Institute

Throughout its history, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has maintained as its primary goal the enhancement of global competitiveness of U.S. business and the American quality of life by facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems and promoting their integrity. The Institute provides a forum for hundreds of ANSI-accredited standards developers that work cooperatively to develop American National Standards (ANS).

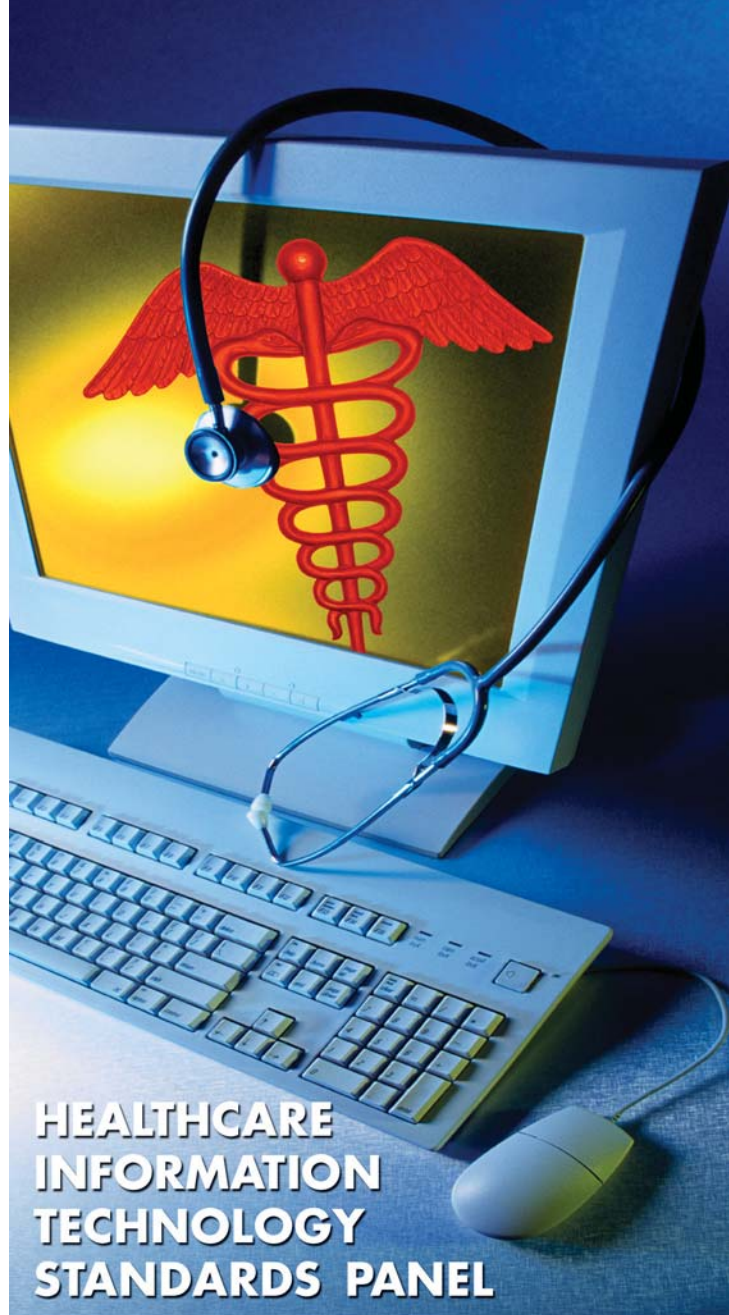
ANSI is the official U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), via the U.S. National Committee.

Comprised of businesses, professional societies and trade associations, standards developers, government agencies, and consumer and labor organizations, the ANSI Federation represents the diverse interests of more than 120,000 entities and 3.2 million professionals worldwide.

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HEALTHCARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS PANEL



American National Standards Institute



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The Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) has been formed to facilitate the harmonization of consensus-based standards necessary to enable the widespread interoperability of healthcare information in the United States. The Panel will assist in the development of the U.S. Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN) by addressing standardization issues such as interoperability, accurate use, access, privacy and security of shared health information.

Objectives

The Panel will:

- be a multi-stakeholder coordinating body designed to provide the process within which affected parties can identify, select, and harmonize standards for communicating healthcare information throughout the healthcare spectrum.
- function as a partnership of the public and private sectors and operate with a neutral and inclusive governance model administered by the American National Standards Institute.
- facilitate the development of harmonized implementation profiles and information policies, including SDO work products that are essential for establishing privacy, security and interoperability among healthcare software applications.
- coordinate, as appropriate, with other national, regional and international groups addressing healthcare informatics to ensure that the resulting standards are globally relevant.
- be use-case driven, utilize information from stakeholders and base its decisions on industry needs.

Areas of work

The HITSP will be called upon to identify, prioritize and promote relevant standards using patient-focused scenarios. The Panel will capitalize on work that has already been completed or that is currently underway within the wider standards-setting community.

Organization

The Panel is sponsored by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in cooperation with strategic partners such as the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), the Advanced Technology Institute (ATI) and Booz Allen Hamilton. A Board of Directors representing each of the various interest bodies was elected at the first meeting. Dr. John Halamka, Chief Information Officer of Harvard Medical School, has been selected as the HITSP Chair.

Funding for the Panel is being provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services with the oversight and backing of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

Participation

Membership on the Panel is open to all organizations with a stake in health data standards. Participants register in one of four major categories: standards development organizations (SDOs); non-SDO stakeholder organizations; governmental bodies and consumers.

Though membership in the American National Standards Institute is strongly encouraged, it is not required for membership in the HITSP.