# Recommended EHR Taskforce Committee Structure

The recommended committee structure is based upon the four *Goals of Strategic Framework* as described by David J. Brailer, M.D., Ph.D., National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (Web address for a more detailed discussion of the goals: <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/healthit/goals.html">http://www.hhs.gov/healthit/goals.html</a>)

Each committee includes a notation referencing the corresponding *Goals of Strategic Framework*, a brief summary of the goal, and a brief description of the strategies proposed by the *Strategic Framework* to attain the goal. These strategies outlined at the federal level demonstrate the nature of the work to be considered by the committee, but are not intended to bind or limit the scope of the committee's work.

## INFORMING CLINICIANS COMMITTEE

Strategic Framework Goal 1

### **Brief Summary of Goal**

For many clinicians incorporating an EHR into their practice represents the unknown, signifies a costly alternative to present-day business practice, and signals a disruption of current workflow.

#### **Brief Description of Strategies**

- 1. Investment in EHRs must be a shared one.
- 2. EHR certification is necessary Technical assistance and support must be available to assist clinicians with EHR adoption.
- 3. Access to EHRs in rural and underserved areas must be increased.

## INTERCONNECTING CLINICIANS COMMITTEE

Strategic Framework Goal 2

#### **Brief Summary of Goal**

Patients' information should be portable and move with them from one point of care to another.

## **Brief Description of Strategies**

1. Foster regional collaborations among health care entities.

- 2. Local Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIOs) must be able to use a common set of standards so they can communicate with one another.
- 3. Commit to common standards and architecture.

## PERSONALIZING HEALTH COMMITTEE

Strategic Framework Goal 3

#### **Brief Summary of Goal**

Well-informed patients are better equipped to actively participate in their own care and decision-making.

### **Brief Description of Strategies**

- 1. Encourage the use of Personal Health Records (PHRs).
- 2. Enhance informed consumer choice.
- 3. Promote the use of Telehealth systems.

## **POPULATION HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Strategic Framework Goal 4

#### **Brief Summary of Goal**

Electronic Health records will optimize population health by:

improving disease surveillance systems, accelerating the speed of clinical research, and improving quality of care.

## **Brief Description of Strategies**

- 1. Unify public health surveillance systems.
- 2. Streamline quality and health status monitoring.
- 3. Accelerate the pace at which scientific discoveries in medicine are disseminated into medical practice.

# Matrix Showing EHR Plan Considerations under the Electronic Health Records Taskforce Act in Relation to Strategic Framework Goals

Strategic Framework Goals	EHR Taskforce Act
This Framework outlines 12 strategies that will	<u>Public Act 94-646</u>
achieve four goals critical to the President's vision. These goals include: introduction of information tools into clinical practice, electronically connecting clinicians to other clinicians, using information tools to personalize care delivery, and advancing surveillance and reporting for population health improvement.	Section 15. EHR plan. The EHR plan shall include, but not be limited to, a consideration of all of the following:
David J. Brailer, M.D., Ph.D., National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, July 21, 2004	
GOAL 1 - INFORMING CLINICIANS:	(3) analysis of costs and benefits in implementing EHR by various types and sizes of health care
For many clinicians incorporating an EHR into their practice represents the unknown, signifies	providers;
a costly alternative to present-day business	(4) survey of equipment, <b>technical assistance</b> , and
practice, and signals a disruption of current workflow. In order to overcome these barriers the investment in EHRs must be a shared	resources that would be necessary to assist smaller health care providers with EHR implementation and utilization;
one, technical assistance and support must be available to assist clinicians with EHR adoption, and access to EHRs in rural and underserved areas must be increased.	(6) a potential phase-in plan for implementing EHR by health care providers throughout Illinois; and
GOAL 2 - INTERCONNECTING CLINICIANS:	(1) key components of and standards for comprehensive EHR systems for recording, storing, analyzing and accessing patient health information,
Patients' information should be portable and move with them from one point of care to	assisting with health care decision-making and quality assurance, and providing for online health care;
another. In order to achieve this goal we must foster regional collaborations among health care entities, interconnect these Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIOs), and commit to common standards and	(2) consistent data elements, definitions, and formats that should be incorporated in EHR systems;
architecture.	

## Matrix Showing EHR Plan Considerations under the Electronic Health Records Taskforce Act in Relation to Strategic Framework Goals

Strategic Framework Goals	EHR Taskforce Act
GOAL 3 – PERSONALIZING HEALTH:	(5) standards, technology platforms, and issues related
	to patient access to their individual medical and
Well-informed patients are better equipped to	health data;
actively participate in their own care and	
decision-making. In the pursuit of personalizing	(7) patient privacy, security, and compliance with
health three strategies have been proposed by	applicable rules set forth in the federal Health
the Office of National Health Information	Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996
Technology (ONCHIT): encouraging the use of	(HIPAA).
PHRs, enhancing informed consumer choice,	
and promoting the use of Telehealth systems.	
GOAL 4 – POPULATION HEALTH:	(1) key components of and standards for
	comprehensive EHR systems for recording, storing,
Electronic Health records will optimize	analyzing and accessing patient health information,
population health by: improving disease	assisting with health care decision-making and quality
surveillance systems, accelerating the speed of clinical research, and improving quality of care.	assurance, and providing for online health care;
	(2) consistent data elements, definitions, and formats
	that should be incorporated in EHR systems;
	(3) analysis of costs and benefits in implementing EHR
	by various types and sizes of health care providers;