Health Information Exchange and System Transformation: Considerations for Data Stewardship and Governance

Jane Hyatt Thorpe, JD
AMIA Health Policy Meeting
December 13, 2012
Transformation

• Vision
  – Patient-centered care
  – Improved quality supported by evidence-based medicine
  – Reduced cost
  – Reduced fraud and abuse
  – Sustainable system

• Tools
  – Aligned incentives to support coordinated care
  – Growing evidence base of research
  – Accessible clinical and administrative data to support evidence generation, research, and transformation
Elements of Transformation

- Provider quality measurement and reporting
- Value-based purchasing
- New patient-centered payment and care delivery models
- Research, including comparative effectiveness research
- Health information exchange
Barriers to Health Information Exchange

- Sensitivity of information and identity management concerns
- Uncertainty about legal requirements and liability, increased enforcement, and increased penalties
- Lack of financial and other incentives across systems for health information exchange
- Lack of infrastructure, including uniform governance structures and consent mechanisms for health information exchange
- Limitations on primary and secondary uses of health information and limited resources
Breaking Down Barriers: Policy Recommendations

- Uniform terminology and standards for data collection, use and exchange, including secondary uses
  - Governance rules
  - Consent forms
  - Systems and applications

- Principles for trusted data exchange
  - Key attributes of trusted data entities
  - Certification process?
  - Sustainable interrelated models – research, patient safety, quality improvement and monitoring, payment and care delivery model support, public health, oversight, proprietary/commercial purposes
Breaking Down Barriers...

- Use of EHRs and other electronic data repositories of claims and clinical data that enable and authorize secondary uses of data
- Empower and engage patients and consumers
- Revisit existing laws and regulations
- New Resource: www.healthinfolaw.org
  - Federal and state health information laws and regulations organized by topic
  - Legal and policy summaries
  - Comparative analyses and interactive maps

The George Washington University
School of Public Health and Health Services

The Department of Health Policy