



**news**

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**IMPACT Act Will Increase Safety for Long-Term Patients**  
*LTPAC Summit focuses on standardized data across long-term facilities*

**RESTON, Va. – June 28, 2016** – An upcoming healthcare regulation will help post-acute care providers ensure safe information sharing and make quality care more affordable to patients, according to a pre-conference session at the 2016 [Long-Term and Post-Acute Care Health Information Technology Summit](#).

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) presented on the *Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014*, which will require the submission of standardized data by all post-acute care facilities, creating a record of a patient's care and health goals. The session "Supporting Health Information Exchange in LTPAC" discussed preparation and guidance on the Act, which begins to go into effect October 1.

"The IMPACT Act is a critical topic at this year's summit because of its significance to the industry's evolving need for interoperability," said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. "This will provide more effective and efficient care and safe information sharing to LTPAC facilities."

LTPAC participation in electronic information exchange is increasingly important in the industry, and the IMPACT Act provides guidance on where to start, according to CMS. The IMPACT Act requires that post-acute care providers report standardized assessment data elements in certain quality measure domains, and that CMS makes assessment data elements interoperable. This will allow continued access for all involved.

This session also addressed Assessment Data Element Standardization and how these initiatives relate to the

**LTPAC Featured Quote:**

**Karen DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc**  
National Coordinator for Health Information Technology & Acting Assistant Secretary for Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

*"The future of health IT—and of the health care system as a whole—is one where electronic health information is unlocked and set free. This means it will be seamlessly, and securely, shared to achieve better, more person-centered care, smarter spending and healthier people. As we work toward this vision each day at ONC, long-term and post-acute care settings will continue to be positioned to deliver more effective and efficient patient care. I applaud the work of the LTPAC HIT Collaborative and am proud to be your partner as we work to make this future vision a reality."*

CMS Quality Strategy of better care, healthy people and communities, and affordable care.

Speakers included:

- Dr. Lawrence Garber, Reliant Medical Group, Atrius Health, medical director for Informatics
- Dr. Terrence O'Malley, M.D., medical director for Non-Acute Care Services, Partners HealthCare, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Jim Younkin, director, Keystone Health Information Exchange (KeyHIE)
- Tara McMullen, MPH, PhD, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- Jennie Harvell, M.Ed, senior technical adviser, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- Kevin Larsen, MD, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services /Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation

Other key presentations at the conference include:

- *Perspective on Precision Medicine*, by Dr. Summerpal Kahlon with Oracle Health Sciences Global Business Unit on the White House initiative, and how it uses genomics, analytics, and health IT to support patient-centered care for the aging population.
- A breakout session with State HIEs to discuss evolving opportunities in the interoperability space for LTPAC
- A panel of healthcare and technology industry executives addressing the harmony between clinical and technical interoperability, and integration of and exchange with LTPAC.

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### **About the LTPAC HIT Collaborative**

The LTPAC Health IT Summit is hosted by the LTPAC Health IT Collaborative including the American Health Information Management Association; American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination; American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association; American Health Care Association; the National Center for Assisted Living; LeadingAge; the Center for Aging Services Technologies; Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society; National Association for Home Care and Hospice; National Association for the Support of Long Term Care; National Pace Association; American Society for Consultant Pharmacists; and the Home Care Technology Association of America. [www.ltpachealthit.org](http://www.ltpachealthit.org)

### **About AHIMA**

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 103,000 health information professionals in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA's enduring goal is quality healthcare through quality information. [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)