



Health Information Technology

WHEREAS: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act invests in health information technology including universal adoption and “meaningful use” of certified, interoperable electronic health records; regional and national health information exchange; and the promotion of telemedicine and remote monitoring.

WHEREAS: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act states that the Health Information Technology Policy Committee is required to give consideration to technologies that address the needs of children and other vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS: The State of Illinois is planning a system of health information exchange to facilitate sharing of clinical and administrative data among providers with stated goals to improve healthcare quality and outcomes, reduce health disparities, reduce medical errors and duplicative services, enhance coordination of patient care among providers, reduce or eliminate paper, and control the cost of healthcare; and

WHEREAS: Children have unique needs for electronic health records including, but not limited to, pediatric weight-based medication dosing, age related norms for laboratory values, tracking of childhood immunizations, and growth charting; and

WHEREAS: Children and youth with special health care needs constitute a vulnerable population with unique needs for health information exchange as a result of fragmentation of care across multiple locations such as primary care offices, community hospitals, pediatric specialty offices and hospitals, therapy centers, schools, home care settings, transitional care, and long-term residential facilities; and

WHEREAS: Children have unique needs for telemedicine because pediatric specialty care is regionalized and of limited availability in many geographic locations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago engage in program and policy initiatives to promote the adoption of health information technology, including electronic health records designed to meet the needs of child health; secure family-centered health information exchange that is inclusive of all the locations in which children receive health care and care coordination; telemedicine and remote monitoring services to reduce disparities in access to pediatric specialty care and to keep children and youth with special health care needs at home and in their communities as much as possible; the development of infrastructure, including broadband, to support the adoption of such technology; and ongoing provider education and reimbursement to support such change to our health care delivery system.