**ACRONYMS**

ANSI  American National Standards Institute  
APHL  Association of Public Health Laboratories  
ARRA  American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009  
CAH  Critical Access Hospital  
CDC  Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CFR  Code of Federal Regulations  
CLIA  Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988  
CMS  Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
CQM  Clinical Quality Measure  
DHHS  Department of Health and Human Services  
EP  Eligible Professionals  
EHR  Electronic Health Record  
ELR  Electronic Laboratory Reporting  
EMR  Electronic Medical Record  
FACA  Federal Advisory Committee Act  
FDA  U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
FHIMS  Federal Health Interoperability Modeling and Standards  
FR  Federal Register  
HIE  Health Information Exchange  
HIT  Health Information Technology  
HITSC  Health IT Standards Committee  
HITPC  Health IT Policy Committee  
HITECH  Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act  
HIPAA  Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act  
HL7  Health Level Seven  
IT  Information Technology  
LIS  Laboratory Information System  
LOINC  Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes  
LRI  Laboratory Results Interface (specifically in relation to an ONC workgroup)  
LRR  Laboratory Results Reporting  
MU  Meaningful Use  
NIST  National Institute of Standards and Technology  
NwHIN  Nationwide Health Information Network (formerly NHIN)  
OCR  Office of Civil Rights  
ONC  Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, aka ONC-HIT  
ONC–AA  ONC–Approved Accrredit  
ONC–ACB  ONC–Authorized Certification Body  
ONC–ATCB  ONC–Authorized Testing and Certification Body  
PHIN  Public Health Information Network  
PHITPO  Public Health Informatics and Technology Program Office (at CDC)  
PHR  Personal Health Record  
PMR  Personal Medical Record  
RHIO  Regional Health Information Organization  
REC  Regional Extension Centers  
SNOMED–CT  Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms  
VLER  Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record
Acronyms and Terms Related to Electronic Health Records

**TERMS**

**Certified Electronic Health Record** - An electronic health record or module of an electronic health record that has been reviewed by an ONC–Authorized Testing and Certification Body (ONC–ATCB) and determined to be compliant with the standards set forth in the Health Information Technology Standards and Certification requirements (45 CFR 170). Meaningful use incentive payments require participating hospitals and providers to use certified electronic health record systems.

**Electronic Health Record (EHR)** – 1. An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that conforms to nationally recognized interoperability standards and that can be created, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff across more than one health care organization. (Reference 1, pg 17)
2. A comprehensive, structured set of clinical, demographic, environmental, social, and financial data and information in electronic form, documenting the health care given to a single individual. (Reference 2, pg 8)

**Electronic Health Record System (EHR-S)** - An information technology system designed to store and manage Electronic Health Records.

**Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR)** - The transmission of data of public health importance (specifically notifiable diseases) from clinical laboratories to public health agencies using electronic format and data specifications defined by public health partners.

**Electronic Medical Record (EMR)** - An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that can be created, gathered, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff within one health care organization. (Reference 1, pg 16)

**Federal Health Interoperability Modeling and Standards (FHIMS)** - Federal initiative intended to coordinate the efforts of the partner agencies with respect to information and terminology standards.

**Health Information Exchange (HIE)** - The electronic movement of health-related information across organizations within a region, community or hospital system and according to nationally recognized standards.

**Interoperability** - Refers to the ability of health information systems to work together within and across organizational boundaries in order to advance the effective delivery of healthcare for individuals and communities.

**Laboratory Results Interface (LRI) Initiative** - An initiative under the S&I framework tasked with addressing interface interoperability challenges associated with laboratory reporting to ambulatory primary care providers. Challenges include mapping, interface configuration, and harmonization of core subsets of LOINC codes.

**Laboratory Results Reporting (LRR)** - The transmission of laboratory results in an electronic format from a clinical laboratory to Electronic Health Record System (EHR-S) for association with a patient’s electronic health record (EHR).

**Meaningful Use (MU)** - Federal incentive program and regulations administered by CMS defining the minimum requirements that providers must meet through their use of certified EHR technology in order to qualify for the payments.

**Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN)** - A federal initiative for the exchange of healthcare information that supports meaningful use, being developed under the auspices of the U.S. Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). Formerly also known as NHIN.

**ONC–Approved Accreditor (ONC–AA)** - An accreditation organization approved by the National Coordinator to accredit electronic health record certification bodies under the permanent certification program, namely the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

**ONC–Authorized Certification Body (ONC–ACB)** - An organization or a consortium of organizations that has applied to and been authorized by the National Coordinator to perform the certification of Complete EHRs, EHR Module(s), and/or other types of health information technology under the permanent certification program.
Acronyms and Terms Related to Electronic Health Records

**ONC–Authorized Testing and Certification Body (ONC–ATCB)** - An organization or a consortium of organizations that has applied to and been authorized by the National Coordinator to perform the testing and certification of Complete EHRs and/or EHR Modules under the *temporary* certification program.

**ONC Permanent Certification Program** - A program that provides a way for the Office of the National Coordinator to authorize organizations to test and certify electronic health record (EHR) technology. The permanent certification program will eventually replace the temporary certification program, as early as December 31, 2011.

**ONC Temporary Certification Program** - A temporary program that provides a way for the Office of the National Coordinator to authorize organizations to test and certify electronic health record (EHR) technology. The permanent certification program will eventually replace the temporary certification program, as early as December 31, 2011.

**Personal Health Record (PHR)** - An electronic record of health-related information on an individual that conforms to nationally recognized interoperability standards and that can be drawn from multiple sources while being managed, shared, and controlled by that individual. (Reference 1, pg 19)

**Personal Medical Record (PMR)** – See PHR. Terms used interchangeably.

**Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO)** – An organization that brings together health care stakeholders within a defined geographic area and governs health information exchange (HIE) among them for the purpose of improving health and care in that community. RHIOs are a component of the structure intended to implement the Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN).

**Standards and Interoperability (S&I) Framework** - A set of integrated functions, processes, and tools being guided by the healthcare and technology industry to achieve harmonized interoperability for healthcare information exchange.

**Surescripts** - Private company authorized to test and certify EHR modules. One of six ONC-Authorized Testing and Certification Bodies. Awarded CDC grant, along with the College of American Pathology (CAP) and the American Hospital Association (AHA), to electronically link hospital laboratories and public health agencies to support meaningful use.

**Technology Transfer & Technology Transfer Office** – Government agency function and office intended to support collaboration and transfer of federal technology to the commercial marketplace and/or research community.

**Tiger Team** - A group of experts assigned to investigate and/or solve technical or systemic problems, particularly in relation to security. (Reference 9)

Sources:
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3. HL7 Version 2.5.1 Implementation Guide: Orders and Observations; Interoperable Laboratory Result Reporting to EHR (US Realm), Release 1, ORU R01, version 2.5.1, November 2007
4. Office of the National Coordinator for Healthcare Information Technology, Harmonized Use Case for Electronic Health Records (Laboratory Result Reporting), March 19, 2006
5. HL7 Version 2.5.1 Implementation Guide: Electronic Laboratory Reporting To Public Health (US Realm), Release 1, ORU R01, version 2.5.1, February, 2010
7. Standards and Interoperability website: http://jira.siframework.org/wiki/display/SIF/Introduction+and+Overview
8. HIMMS Whitepaper: Interoperability Definition and Background, June 9, 2005