



May 27, 2016

Marc Tobias, MD  
Naveen Muthu, MD  
Department of Biomedical and Health Informatics  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

RE: Federal Register Document: 81 FR 11277, Document Number: 2016-04466

Dear Marc and Naveen,

On behalf of Epic, I am pleased to offer this Letter of Support for your proposal entitled **“Population Health Risk Assessment Support Engine (PHRASE).”** As you have shared with us, your project aims to facilitate the translation of universal care recommendations using a ‘define once and distribute widely’ approach using FHIR as an interoperable messaging standard. The objective of this effort is to lower the cost of maintaining the knowledge content relevant for clinical decision support.

As you know, Epic is an electronic health record (EHR) developer located in Verona, Wisconsin. We estimate that, when fully rolled out, our customer community will provide care for 50-60% of the U.S. population. As the EHR vendor for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), we enthusiastically support the aims of this project. We are a strong advocate for, and industry leader in, standards-based data exchange to support clinical care and research. Epic exposes a publicly available sandbox for integration testing and development at [open.epic.com](http://open.epic.com). We actively participate in many HIT industry standards development workgroups (e.g. HL7, IHE, etc.). Additionally, Epic is a founding member and a strong supporter of the Argonaut project which was formed to encourage rapid and meaningful adoption of FHIR.

You and your team have significant knowledge of and expertise with Epic functionality, including our interoperability capabilities. We have a strong history of collaboration with members of your team on a variety of projects including the PECARN traumatic brain injury decision support project which successfully demonstrated the ability to use an external, centrally-curated decision support algorithm to drive real-time, individualized decision support at the point of care.

Epic is committed to providing expert advice and guidance upon request as your team pursues the objectives of this project. We encourage you to share the results of your efforts with the larger Epic community during one of our Spring Advisory Council meetings or our Fall User Group Meeting.

We look forward to contributing to this important effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nancy Smider".

Nancy Smider, PhD  
Director, Research Informatics  
Epic