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**Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Improve the Interoperability of Health Information**

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# Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Improve the Interoperability of Health Information

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently proposed a new rule to support seamless and secure access, exchange, and use of electronic health information (EHI).

The proposed rule is designed to increase innovation and competition by giving patients and their healthcare providers secure access to health information and new tools, allowing for more choice in care and treatment. It calls on the healthcare industry to adopt standardized application programming interfaces (APIs), which will help allow individuals to securely and easily access structured EHI using smartphone applications.

The proposed rule places a strong focus on a patient's ability to access their health information through a provision requiring that patients can electronically access all of their EHI (structured and/or unstructured) at no cost. Finally, to further support access and exchange of EHI, the proposed rule implements the information blocking provisions of the Cures Act. The rule proposes seven exceptions to the definition of information blocking.

Notice: This HHS-approved document has been submitted to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) for publication and has not yet been placed on public display or published in the Federal Register. The document may vary slightly from the published document if minor editorial changes



have been made during the OFR review process. The document published in the Federal Register is the official HHS-approved document. We'll update HealthIT.gov once the proposed rule is published by the Federal Register.

[Download the Proposed Rule \[PDF - 3.2 MB\]](#)

## Fact Sheets on the Proposed Rule



[Implementation of Cures Act and Executive Orders \[PDF - 1.4 MB\]](#)



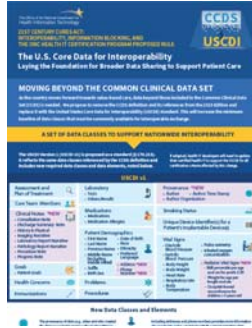
[Conditions and Maintenance of Certification Requirements \[PDF - 805 KB\]](#)



[Information Blocking – Summaries of the 7 Exceptions \[PDF - 578 KB\]](#)



Application Programming Interface (API) Permitted Fees [PDF - 405 KB]



U.S. Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) [PDF - 776 KB]



API Certification Criterion and Associated Condition of Certification [PDF - 1.1 MB]



Electronic Health Information Export for Patient and Provider Access [PDF - 1.6 MB]



Health IT for Pediatric Care and Practice Settings [PDF - 477 KB]



Standards Version Advancement Process [PDF - 442 KB]

## Information Blocking Fact Sheets

- [Information Blocking Exception for Recovering Costs Reasonably Incurred \[PDF – 180KB\]](#)
- [Information Blocking Exception for Practices that Prevent Harm \[PDF – 160KB\]](#)
- [Information Blocking Exception for Practices that Maintain and Improve Health IT Performance \[PDF – 144KB\]](#)
- [Information Blocking Exception for Requests that are Infeasible \[PDF – 150KB\]](#)
- [Information Blocking Exception for Privacy-Protective Practices \[PDF – 165KB\]](#)
- [Information Blocking Exception for the Licensing of Interoperability Elements on Reasonable and Non-discriminatory Terms \[PDF – 206KB\]](#)
- [Information Blocking Exception for Security-Related Practices \[PDF – 235KB\]](#)

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### Webinar Series

ONC will be hosting a series of webinars to explain the proposed rule. Additional details will be announced in the coming weeks.

## Media Materials

- [Read the NPRM Press Release](#)
- [Download the ONC Media Advisory \[PDF - 610 KB\]](#)
- [Read the new blog post from Dr. Rucker on the Proposed Rule](#)

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