



The Office of the National Coordinator for  
Health Information Technology



# Health IT Standards Committee Update November 13, 2012

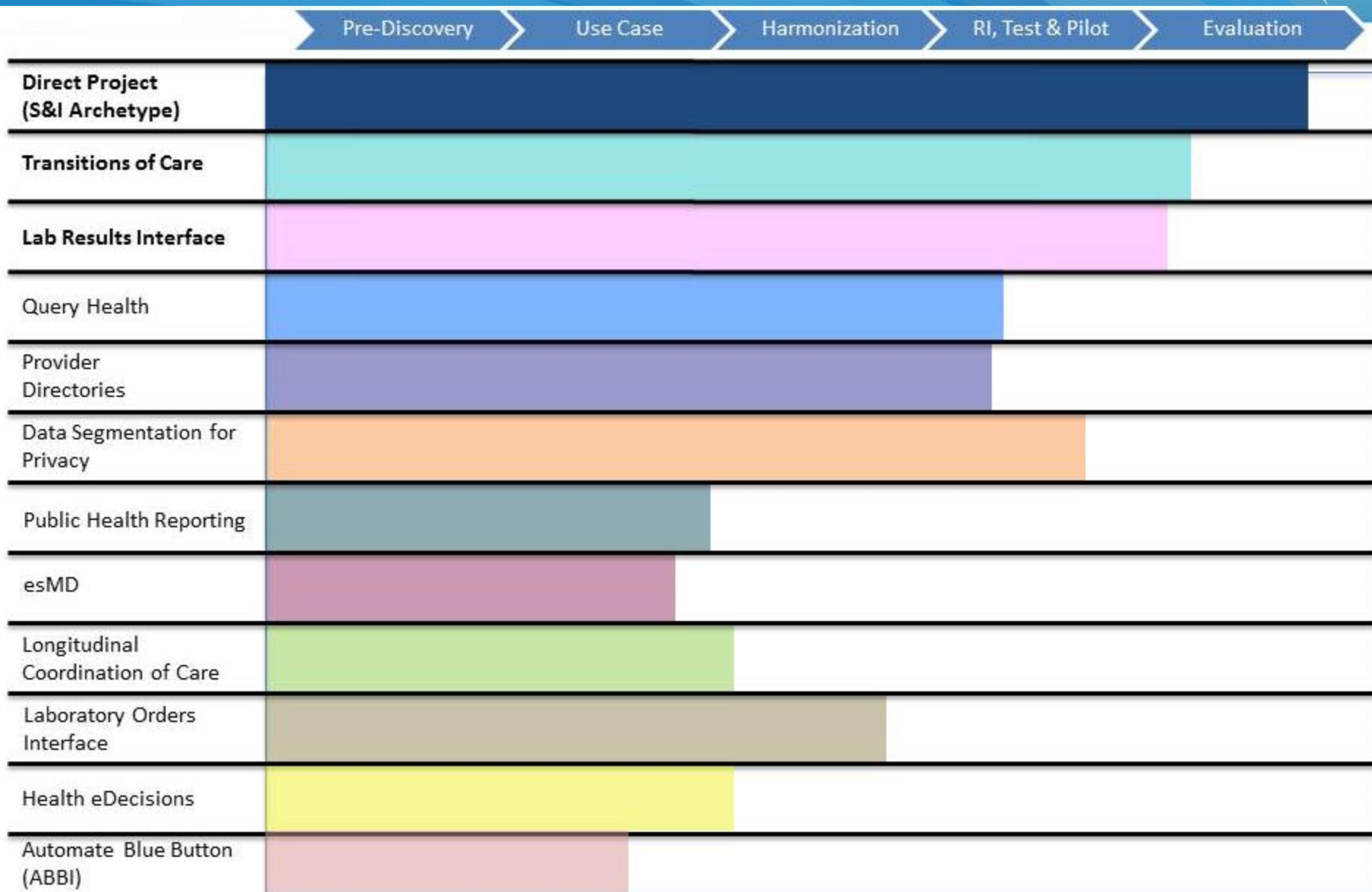
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Putting the **I** in Health **IT**  
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# S&I Initiative Portfolio Snapshot



# Automate Blue Button Initiative (ABBI)

## Status update

November 13, 2012

# Blue Button Background



- Two years ago, the VA added a simple, easy to recognize “Blue Button” to their patient portal.



- Since then, the use of Blue Button has grown into a movement – a commitment by many of the country’s largest data holders, including the Federal government – to get personal health information out of proprietary silos and into the hands of the consumers who want a holistic picture of their health and health care.

VA  
CMS  
Department  
of Defense  
Aetna  
United  
+ *Many more*

- Several hundreds of thousands of veterans, members of the military, and Medicare beneficiaries have already downloaded their data through Blue Button.

# Blue Button: How It Works Today



*Today, Blue Button means letting consumers download an ASCII file of their personal health information after they log onto the dataholder's portal. For example:*





- Identify, define, and harmonize **implementation standards, tools and services** that facilitate the automated PUSH and automated PULL of patient information via the Blue Button
- Identify, define and harmonize **content structures and specifications** for the Blue Button so that information downloaded is machine readable and human readable
- Identify, define, and harmonize protocols around **identification and credentialing**, and protocols around **access and authorization**, that facilitate the automated PUSH and automated PULL of patient information via the Blue Button



# PUSH Project Scope



## PUSH

*Automating transmission of personal health data to a specific location*

## EXAMPLE USE CASES

A patient can specify in a dataholder's system to be sent an updated copy of his/her personal health information as it becomes available.

By patient request, a provider can specify in an EHR that a patient be sent an updated copy of his/her personal health information as it becomes available

### REQUIREMENTS & ASSUMPTIONS

- Patient/Provider is already authenticated in dataholder's system.
- Transport must be secure
- Data sent must be both human-readable and machine-readable

### IN SCOPE (TO BE CONSIDERED)

- Transport standards, services, and specifications
- Content standards: whether or not to include in implementation guide(s)
- Implementation guide(s) to support use case(s), building off existing standards

### OUT OF SCOPE (NOT TO BE CONSIDERED)

- Policy concerns and constraints. This initiative will define the mechanism, – how and where they apply it will be up to state and local laws

# PULL Project Scope



## PULL

*Allowing a third party application to periodically access my personal health data*

## EXAMPLE USE CASE

A patient can direct a third party application to periodically have access to his/her personal health information via the internet. The dataholder will ensure this data is made available and follow certain privacy and security standards.

### REQUIREMENTS & ASSUMPTIONS

- Data must be transmitted securely
- Patient must give application consent to pull health information from data holder
- Data sent must be both human-readable and machine-readable

### IN SCOPE (TO BE CONSIDERED)

- Authentication, transport, and content standards.
- Leverage REHx project (Oauth and OpenID)
- Leverage ToC project
- Leverage lab interface project

### OUT OF SCOPE (NOT TO BE CONSIDERED)

- Policy concerns and constraints. This initiative will define the mechanism, – how and where they apply it will be up to state and local laws



# Blue Button v2: Deliverables



## Workstreams

### 1. Reference Implementations

- V/D/T + Automation Showcase
- PULL demonstrations
- Etc.

### 2. Technical Implementation Guides

- Direct
- Email
- Pull

### 3. Workflow Guides

- Payers
- Providers

### 4. Policy FAQ Guidance

### 5. CCD/ C-CDA Style Sheet Library

### 6. Blue Button Brand Guidance: V1 vs. V/D/T vs. V2

## #1) By March: 5+ Implementations of Blue Button v2

Providers

Payers

EHR Vendors

## #2) By March: Implementation Guide on Blue Button v2



About

How To

Commit

Implementation  
Examples

Policy  
Guidance

Brand  
Guidelines

## #3) By June: Developer Response to Blue Button v2

Challenges

Datapalooza Theme

Examples of New  
Products

## #4) By Aug: Pilots of Blue Button v2

# Questions/Discussion



## Learn more at:

ONC website:

[www.healthit.hhs.gov/](http://www.healthit.hhs.gov/)

S&I Framework wiki:

<http://wiki.siframework.org>

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