



**NATIONAL COORDINATION OFFICE
FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

MEDIA ADVISORY

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**PRESIDENT'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RELEASES REPORT ON HEALTH CARE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC) today released the report, "Revolutionizing Health Care Through Information Technology." This report reflects the assessment of PITAC that the adoption of electronic medical records, clinical decision support, computerized provider order entry, and secure, private, interoperable health information exchange are increasingly critical to improving the overall quality and cost-effectiveness of health care delivery.

At the core of the report's recommendations is the concept of a secure, patient-centered electronic health record that: 1) safeguards personal privacy; 2) uses standardized clinical terminology that can be correctly read by any care provider and incorporated into computerized tools to support clinical decision making; 3) eliminates today's dangers of illegible handwriting and missing patient information; and 4) can be securely transferred over communications networks as a patient's care requires.

The report reinforces the President's initiatives in this area, proposing 12 specific recommendations for Federal research and specific actions to accelerate the application of information technology to health care. The report's recommendations, based on eight months of study, represent the judgment of the PITAC membership as an independent advisory body.

If you would like a printed copy of this report, please contact the National Coordination Office for Information Technology Research & Development at nco@nitrd.gov or (703) 292-4873. The report is available online at <http://www.nitrd.gov/pitac/reports>.

About PITAC

The President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC) was established on February 11, 1997 to provide the President, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the Federal agencies involved in IT R&D with guidance and advice on all areas of high performance computing, communications, and information technologies. Representing the research, education, and library communities and including network providers and representatives from critical industries, the Committee guides the Administration's effort to accelerate development and adoption of information technologies vital for American prosperity in the 21st century.

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