

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dr. Marshall Ruffin, HITSAC Chairman  
Ms. Debbie Condrey, HITSAC Genomics Working Group Chairperson

**FROM:** Dr. Joseph W. Grubbs, HITSAC Genomics Working Group Research Coordinator

**DATE:** October 3, 2014

**RE:** HITSAC Genomics Working Group Status Update

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Since HITSAC formed the Genomics Working Group in April 2014, the Working Group has made significant progress under its Charter by developing use cases and identifying potential health IT standards for the Commonwealth to support the exchange of genomic data. The Working Group has focused its investigation and use cases on health IT, nomenclature, data structures, governance and related information architecture requirements.

During its second public meeting on September 23, 2014, the Working Group made final recommendations on the proposed use cases to bring before HITSAC during its October 2014 meeting. The proposed use cases are as follows:

- Use Case #1 – Process for Implementing a Clinical-Grade Variant File within the Healthway eHealth Exchange. The use case will support implementation of the clinical-grade variant file currently under development by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the eHealth Exchange (the nationwide HIE). The CDC file specification will be implemented in the HIE for public health and clinical (query and retrieve) purposes. If approved, transmittals based on the file specification will contain reference data from a laboratory certified as compliant with the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) regulations. The Mayo Clinic was identified as a viable candidate for the reference data.
- Use Case #2 – Process for Integrating Results from Pharmacogenomic Testing across Electronic Health Record Systems. The use case will support integration of the results from pharmacogenomic testing across electronic health record (EHR) systems. The candidate EHR systems for the use case will be the Inova Health System/ITMI EHR (Epic) system and the Virginia Commonwealth University EHR (Cerner) system. If approved, transmittal of the data will leverage existing infrastructure operated by the ConnectVirginia HIE and MedVirginia HIE.

The proposed health IT standards under consideration for HITSAC review include regulations under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA), applicable Health Level 7 (HL7) Implementation Guides and standards under development from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC).

The draft use case documents and final list of proposed health IT standards will be ready for distribution to HITSAC in advance of the October 2014 meeting. In the interim, please let me know if you have questions or require additional information.