

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 4-17

INTRODUCED BY: Montgomery County Medical Society

SUBJECT: Patient Privacy Invasion by the Submission of Fully Identified Quality
Measure Data to CMS

1 Whereas, there are two types of quality measure reports that are required to be produced by Meaningful Use
2 Stage 2 Certified EHRs: QRDA I reports provide detailed information about patients including names, dates of
3 birth, addresses, race and ethnicity and conditions such as diabetes, drug and alcohol abuse, obesity, depression,
4 etc. and QRDA III reports which are summary reports which do not contain personal information about patients;
5 and

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7 Whereas, patients do not give permission to submit the personally identified QRDA I reports for either PQRS for
8 Medicare and Medicaid or for Meaningful Use Quality Reporting; and

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10 Whereas, the release of private information without permission can undermine the willingness of patients to
11 confide in their provider and may undermine the provider-patient relationship; and

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13 Whereas, CMS has stated that in the future the intent is to only allow QRDA I reports. (Federal Register,
14 Volume 80 No. 158 August 17, 2015 page 49759 last paragraph [https://www.gpo.gov/
15 fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-17/pdf/2015-19049.pdf](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-17/pdf/2015-19049.pdf)); and

16
17 Whereas, the quality measures include very sensitive information and there will be more quality measures
18 introduced each year . (EP Quality Measures <http://tinyurl.com/htke4ye> EH Quality Measures
19 <http://tinyurl.com/grjcd3t>); and

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21 Whereas, there are no guarantees that the database containing this personally identified information can be
22 protected from illegal access; and

23
24 Whereas, there are no guarantees that the database will not be released deliberately, by act of law or regulation,
25 sometime in the future, without patient permission; therefore be it

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27 Resolved, that to protect patient privacy, MedChi submit a resolution to the American Medical Association to
28 establish regulation and/or legislation that all quality measure data should only be collected in summary format
29 with no personally identified information about patients included; and be it further

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31 Resolved, that MedChi send a letter to the Maryland congressional delegation and to the Secretary of Health &
32 Human Services requesting that all quality measure data should only be collected in summary format with no
33 personally identified information about patients included.

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36 Resolution 4-17 was referred to the Board of Trustees by the House of Delegates at its meeting on April 30,
37 2017.