

CNSI Moderates HIMSS Future of Health Data Privacy and Security – Trust and Balance Event

This past April, leading privacy and security experts met in Washington, D.C. to discuss these issues and the latest solutions available to address privacy matters at the National Capital Area Chapter of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society's (HIMMS) Future of Health Data Privacy and Security summit.



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CNSI Health IT Analyst Tatjana Misic moderated the event which included three panelists. The panelists provided unique perspectives on ensuring security and privacy remain of paramount importance while also guaranteeing that these protections do not hinder the industry's central goal_ increasing access and support for affordable, quality health care.

Rick Barnhill, who serves as deputy chief and program manager for the U.S. Army's Western Regional Medical Command Clinical Informatics Division, was among the panelists on board. The Department of Defense's preparation in acquiring a new enterprise electronic health record (EHR) system and its security requirements was also outlined. Barnhill noted that while meaningful consent is a widely accepted way for patients to express preferences in limiting access to their health records, technical issues related to data segmentation and patient education associated with consent can at times create obstacles. He also gave examples of successful electronic exchange of the patient data with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Deven McGraw, director of the Health Privacy Project at the Center for Democracy and Technology, also participated, discussing her efforts developing workable security protections for EHRs. McGraw highlighted the need for building trust between providers and patients in order to establish confidence that our medical records are safe. She also discussed the future of privacy in healthcare and noted that pragmatic solutions are needed and available to overcome identity and other privacy issues that arise from the  electronic exchange of patient data.

Identity management for secure electronic exchanges, care coordination efforts and payment for health care was covered widely during the event. Daniel Vidosic, Defense Manpower Data Center IT Specialist and iEHR Integration Project Manager,

highlighted his successes and struggles with identity management and discussed the possibility of using a Unique Patient Identifier that could solve some of these issues.

As the health care IT industry continues to advance, these panelists will be among those at the forefront of ensuring innovations are properly, and securely, put to work.

What unique technologies might be employed to further ensure the security of digital medical information? Tweet [@CNSICorp](https://twitter.com/CNSICorp) to let us know! Follow CNSI on Twitter.