



Standards

From an Integrator's Point of View

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Simple Goals to Agree Upon or What the Users Want

- Quality Data
- Timely Data
- Understandable Data
- Complete Data
- Securing MY Data
- Access to YOUR Data
- A faster, better, more efficient way to get that Data



Lessons Learned in 8 years of Implementing Interoperability

- Everyone needs to speak the same language
 - Use of standardized coding
 - Data Quality issues are not usually caused by IT
- It's easier when everyone uses the same syntax
 - Standard messaging schema's
- Not all standards are created equally
 - We need someone to manage that
- Not everyone understands the importance of the lessons one thru three !



Not Everyone Understands the Importance of Lessons One thru Three !

- Health IT gets it, because it makes their job easier
- Program areas get it because it reduces opportunity for “translation” errors
- Not all Executive Management or Local Government get it
 - Why modify a system that already works ?
 - How much is this going to cost?
 - We have our own standards, what’s wrong with them?
 - What are you talking about? Don’t we already use CPT Codes?
 - Did I ask how much this is going to cost?



As a Result:

Our information systems **DO** support our programmatic needs

But most of our information systems cannot exchange data between programs within and across public health agencies and with clinical information systems



What Florida Has Done

- Created and Integration Services Center
 - Adopted standards like HL7 and LOINC to implement ELR which benefited the agency
- Joined HL7
- Assigned a part-time resource to monitor Standards activity
- Participate in PHDSC



But...We still need:

- Financial support and management approval to attend Standards meetings, even out-of-state ones
- Enterprise support to require use of standards in all application development
- Education Tools that can be used to explain the entire “standards mess” to the uninitiated



Next Steps

- The Program areas and IT shops that understand the value of National Standards need to educate Executive Management.
 - What benefits there would be for the agency at the Enterprise level
 - What Standards Organizations there are and
 - That support staff need to be able to get involved



And to get us started

Here is

The PHDSC
Business Case !