



The American Medical Association (AMA) endorsement of interoperability, June 2009

AMA Resolution H-480.953 Interoperability of Medical Devices

“Our American Medical Association believes that intercommunication and interoperability of electronic medical devices could lead to important advances in patient safety and patient care, and that the standards and protocols to allow such seamless intercommunication should be developed fully with these advances in mind. Our AMA also recognizes that, as in all technological advances, interoperability poses safety and medico-legal challenges as well. The development of standards and production of interoperable equipment protocols should strike the proper balance to achieve optimum patient safety, efficiency, and outcome benefit while preserving incentives to ensure continuing innovation.” (res. 519, A-09)

Medical device interoperability, in improving patient safety, also lowers medical costs substantially.

“...annual savings in excess of \$30 billion may be liberated by widespread adoption of functional interoperability for medical devices.”

The West Health Institute is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) medical research organization whose mission is to lower health care costs by developing innovative patient-centered solutions.



Other endorsements of interoperability since 2005

- American Society of Anesthesiologists
- American College of Pathology
- American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
- Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation
- Endocrine Society
- Former Secretary of Health and Human Services, Mike Leavitt
- Illinois State Medical Association
- Indiana State Medical Association

- Massachusetts Medical Society
- Michigan State Medical Association
- Missouri State Medical Association
- New York State Medical Association
- Society for Technology in Anesthesia
- Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons
- Urology Society
- World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists