Imagine Interoperability

Abstract:
Join me on a journey to a world where healthcare interoperability is a reality. We will examine what this could mean for providers, for patients, and for a learning health system. We will discuss the role of HL7 (Health Level 7) FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) and public policy in helping to make true interoperability a reality.

Learning Objectives:
• List and discuss the benefits of healthcare interoperability.
• Describe how HL7 FHIR can enable interoperability.
• Identify and discuss public policy efforts designed to move the country towards interoperable health IT.

Bio:
Virginia has been working in health informatics for almost 3 decades. She is a senior technical architect at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYP) where she has a history of experience focusing on solving real-world interoperability problems. More recently her focus has been on helping the organization in implementing regulatory programs involving electronic health records and interoperability. She is a champion of standards-based interoperability and is especially proud of her 25 years of active service to HL7 (Health Level 7), an international developer of healthcare interoperability standards. She serves on their Technical Steering Committee, co-chairs the Organizational Support Division, and chairs the Education Advisory Council. She also represents NYP in the CARIN Alliance which focuses on consumer directed interoperability and assists integrating the Healthcare Enterprise in their North American Connectathons as a test monitor. Virginia also serves on the faculty in the Department of Biomedical Informatics at Columbia University. She runs the Certification of Professional Achievement in Health IT, a 12-credit graduate level intensive part-time program that uses innovative blended learning to support working professionals. She developed 5 units on interoperability for the ONC Workforce Curriculum, a curriculum used in colleges across the country. She also serves as the department’s interoperability standards educator and advisor and co-chairs the new Columbia HL7 FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) Lab. She presented at numerous conferences and guest lectures on interoperability, and has been called to deliver testimony in Washington.

**CME Credit Available**

Questions? Please call the Biomedical Informatics Department at 631-638-2590.