The Path to Data Interoperability Is Currently Under Construction

Speaker Biographies

Mary R. Grealy
President
Healthcare Leadership Council

Mary R. Grealy is president of the Healthcare Leadership Council, a coalition of chief executives of the nation’s leading healthcare companies and organizations. HLC advocates consumer-centered healthcare reform, emphasizing the value of private sector innovation. It is the only health policy advocacy group that represents all sectors of the healthcare industry. She was appointed to the position in August 1999.

Ms. Grealy has an extensive background in healthcare policy. She has led important initiatives on the uninsured, improving patient safety and quality, protecting the privacy of patient medical information, and reforming the medical liability laws. She testifies regularly before Congress and federal regulatory agencies. She is a frequent public speaker on health issues and has been ranked many times by Modern Healthcare as one of the 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare and has been named to Modern Healthcare’s list of the Top 25 Women in Healthcare for 2009.

Tate Erlinger, M.D., MPH
Vice President, Clinical Informatics
Ascension

Tate Erlinger, MD, MPH, transitioned to Ascension Healthcare in 2017 to help lead the Ascension Clinical Research Institute (ACRI). Prior to joining ACRI, Dr. Erlinger oversaw Analytics and Informatics services at the Ascension Seton Healthcare Family and also served as Medical Director for Seton Health Alliance.

Dr. Erlinger received his undergraduate degree from University of Texas at Austin and his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Chicago. Following residency, Dr. Erlinger completed a three-year clinical research fellowship at Johns
Hopkins School of Medicine and his Masters in Public Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He remained on the Johns Hopkins faculty for an additional five years conducting epidemiologic research in cardiovascular disease, lifestyle modification and population-based analyses of chronic disease.

Dr. Erlinger relocated to Central Texas in 2005 and began working with University of Texas Medical Branch and Seton Healthcare Family. In 2010, after conducting some novel work during the H1N1 outbreak at Seton, he went on to become the State Epidemiologist for Texas. In that role, he spearheaded new initiatives in public health involving healthcare quality, quality improvement and health information technology policy while overseeing statewide epidemiology activities. Before rejoining Seton in 2014, he was the Chief Analytics Officer and Vice President for Quality Improvement for a Texas-based health plan where he initiated clinical analytics and oversaw Quality Improvement activities and performance improvement initiatives.

Dr. Erlinger is an active volunteer at the Volunteer Health Clinic in Austin, serving uninsured adults in the community with chronic disease.

Kashif Rathore  
Vice President, Interoperability  
Cerner

As the vice president of Interoperability, Kashif Rathore has overall responsibility over strategy and services for the Interoperability Strategic Business Unit. He has been instrumental in establishing many of these services, including Cerner Connectivity Hub solutions, provider outreach, secure messaging, public registry connectivity, health information exchanges and the CommonWell Health Alliance®.

From his experience in these roles, he has a unique perspective on the requirements for effectively serving clients and their organizations. He is a strong advocate within Cerner for both clients and associates – a champion for their success and satisfaction.

Kashif is dedicated to health care interoperability and has a primary role in developing Cerner’s services and building robust teams. As a result, the interoperability organization has achieved 100 percent business growth over the past three years.

Kashif is involved within the wider health information technology industry, serving on professional committees focused on solving the challenges of effective data exchange. He has presented on interoperability at HIMSS and conferences around the world. Kashif was a part of the leadership team that developed and implemented Cerner’s interoperability solutions since inception.

Kashif earned a master’s degree in executive business administration from the Henry W. Bloch School of Management at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He holds a bachelor’s degree in management information systems from the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond and a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from the University of the Punjab, Pakistan.
Paul Uhrig, J.D.
Chief Administrative, Legal and Privacy Officer
Surescripts

Paul Uhrig has devoted his professional career to health information technology. As Chief Administrative, Legal, and Privacy Officer of Surescripts, Paul Uhrig is responsible for overseeing internal audit, legal, security, privacy, and government affairs. Within his scope of practice, he connects disparate components of the healthcare system to ensure overall congruency and efficiency. His work has contributed to significant milestones in promoting a collaborative and sustainable healthcare system that works for patients and providers.

Paul is dedicated to health care interoperability, and his commitment to its improvements has led him to participate in a multitude of professional organizations with executive tenure. Paul Uhrig is a member of the Board of Directors for eHealth Initiative, a non-profit organization committed to research and advocacy for innovative solutions to improve quality, safety, and efficient through information and technology. As a member of the Board of Directors for Enli Health Intelligence (formerly Kryptiq Corporation), he supervises population health and patient relationship management solutions for integrated delivery networks and physician practices.

His work with The Sequoia Project advanced the implementation of secure, interoperable health information exchanges. His former role with National eHealth Collaborative granted him significant experience in catapulting interoperable nationwide health information exchange through education and stakeholder engagement.

He earned a juris doctorate from American University, Washington College of Law and holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Notre Dame.