

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S3-02-01
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



December 10, 2018

Richard Gibson, MD, PhD
Health Record Banking Alliance
P.O. Box 91325
Portland OR 97291

Dear Dr. Gibson:

Thank you for your letter regarding discussions at the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology Interoperability Forum in Washington, DC in April 2018 about housing in one location a patient's clinical data, claims data, genomic data, and wearables data.

Since the passing of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 and throughout the rulemaking process, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) actively sought feedback from providers and stakeholders like Health Record Banking Alliance (HRBA). In those discussions, we have heard many of the points you raised, including giving patients more control of their own Electronic Health Records (EHR) data and eliminating existing barriers to health data access and usage.

CMS appreciates HRBA's work toward a unified patient personal health records, which aligns with the MyHealthEData Initiative to improve EHR patient data access. We will continue to explore options to reduce clinician burden while promoting interoperability, and we will consider your recommendations as we strive to meet our goals. I have also shared your letter with Office of Enterprise Data and Analytic, the CMS component responsible for this initiative.

Again, CMS appreciates your feedback in this area. Please do not hesitate to contact Jayne Hammen at (410)786-2894 or Jayne.Hammen@cms.hhs.gov if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Goodrich". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light background.

Kate Goodrich, MD, MHS
Director, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality
Chief Medical Officer
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services