

February 15, 2016

Amy Goldberg-Alberts, M.B.A., FASHRM, CPHRM
Executive Director, Partnership Solutions
Patient Safety, Risk, and Quality
ECRI Institute
5200 Butler Pike
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-1298, USA

RE: Endorsement of ECRI Copy & Paste Safe Practice Recommendations

VIA E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Goldberg-Alberts,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Partnership for Health IT Patient Safety initiative on Copy & Paste. AHIMA is the national non-profit association of health information management (HIM) professionals. Serving 52 affiliated component state associations including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, AHIMA represents over 103,000 health information management professionals dedicated to effective health information management, information governance, and applied informatics.

We appreciate the work of the Partnership on developing the Copy & Paste Recommendations as follows:

- Recommendation A:** Provide a mechanism to make copy and paste material easily identifiable.
- Recommendation B:** Ensure that the provenance of copy and paste material is readily available.
- Recommendation C:** Ensure adequate staff training and education regarding the appropriate and safe use of copy and paste.
- Recommendation D:** Ensure that copy and paste practices are regularly monitored, measured, and assessed.

AHIMA endorses these recommendations as an important *first* step in improving patient safety. We recognize that additional requirements and actions are needed to ensure that the use of copy and paste does not impede patient safety.

We invite ECRI and members of the Partnership to join the AHIMA Standards Task Force to take actions on these recommendations by collaborating with international standards development organizations in the AHIMA Information Governance Standards Project. In this project we work with the Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) and International Organization of Standardization (ISO), Technical Committee 215 Health Informatics (ISO/TC215) to develop standards for copy and paste capabilities in health information technology products. To join this project, please contact Diana Warner, Director, HIM Practice Excellence, at diana.warner@ahima.org, (312) 233-1519.



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Please contact me at lynne.thomasgordon@ahima.org; or (312) 233-1165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Lynne Gordon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA
Chief Executive Officer