

Laboratory Interoperability

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Value of Laboratory Interoperability

- **Lab results can represent up to 70-80% of all health care information for patients and providers**
- **Key component of longitudinal Electronic Health Record**
- **Reduce redundancy/retesting**
- **Initial report for >70% of notifiable diseases**

Challenges

- **Absence of direct Meaningful Use incentives for laboratories**
- **Laboratory professionals not engaged in the health IT policy discussions**
- **Lack of standard laboratory vocabulary and codes**
- **Limited understanding of the benefits of broader interoperability**

Questions for CLIAC

- What are the semantic interoperability challenges for currently marketed *in vitro* diagnostic devices? How can FDA, CDC, CMS, and other agencies help to address the challenges?
- What needs to happen to bring about widespread exchange of laboratory data among providers? What should be the role of CMS, CDC, and FDA and other agencies in this process?
- What educational information needs to be provided to laboratory professionals to promote interoperability of laboratory systems with the EHRs and other health IT systems?