

# WEDI | Spring Conference

MAY 2026, VIRTUAL



## **CONFERENCE AGENDA**

All times are Eastern- Content Subject to Change  
All sessions will be available on WEDI's Whova site  
(information will be sent to all registrants)

## **Thank You to Our Conference Sponsors**



ITILITI HEALTH



### **Monday, May 11, 2026**

WEDI Workgroup Meetings (open to all registrants)

10:00am – 11:00am	Provider Information
11:00am – 12:00pm	Remittance Advice & Payment
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Attachments
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Patient Experience
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Privacy & Security
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Value-Based Care
4:00pm – 5:00pm	Claims

### **Tuesday, May 12, 2026**


8:45am – 9:00am WEDI Welcome

9:00am – 9:30am WEDI Workgroup Kickoff: Privacy & Security/ Patient Experience Joint Session

9:30am – 10:00am Conference Keynote: Beyond the Specification: Turning HL7 Standards into Scalable Interoperability

#### **Rachel Dunscombe, CEO, HL7**



As the health care industry moves from standards development toward scalable, real-world implementation, hear how HL7 CEO Rachel Dunscombe is approaching CMS-0057-F. In this keynote she'll address the variability that blocks adoption, explain alignment with CMS and ASTP priorities, and show how HL7 standards can be leveraged to enable AI and automation. Most importantly, Rachel will demonstrate a practical approach to reduce the implementation burden for providers and vendors, turning standards into usable tools that accelerate deployment and improve outcomes.

- 10:00am – 10:30am TBA
- 10:30am – 10:45am Conference Break
- 10:45am – 11:15am **Advancing Value-Based Care: State Strategies for Rural Health Transformation**  
**Aisha Pittman, SVP, Government Affairs, NAACOS**  
**Zil Joyce Dixon Romero, State Government Affairs Manager, National Rural Health Association**  
**Julie Brown-Georgi, Director of Interoperability - Policy and Standards, AMA (WEDI Value Based Care WG Co-Chair)**  
**Michael Pattwell, Principal Business Advisor, Edifecs (WEDI Value Based Care WG Co-Chair)**  
 States are increasingly investing in value-based care as a pathway to strengthen rural health systems and improve outcomes—but turning policy into practice remains complex. This panel brings together national leaders and industry experts to explore how states are advancing value-based models, the role of interoperability and data exchange, and what it will take to scale these efforts across diverse communities. Attendees will gain practical insights into emerging strategies, ongoing challenges, and the future of value-based care in rural America.
- 11:15am – 12:00pm **Interpreting Public Prior Auth Metrics- *Sponsored by Edifecs, a Cotiviti Business***  
**Jason Van Der Jagt, Solutions Consultant, Edifecs, a Cotiviti Business**  

 In this presentation, our speakers will offer learnings and insights from publicly available PA metrics while also examining the current state of FHIR adoption based on transactions flowing through Edifecs' systems. Part two of the presentation will shift from compliance to driving value and outcomes. We'll outline the next generation of PA performance metrics health plans should begin tracking now to quantify ROI, identify automation opportunities, and systematically reduce administrative burden.
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm Conference Break
- 12:30pm – 1:15pm **The CMS Health Tech Ecosystem: Vision, Value, and How the Industry Can Engage**  
**Amy Gleason, Acting Administrator of U.S. DOGE Service and Special Advisor to CMS**  
**Ryan Howells, CARIN Alliance, Principal, Leavitt Partners**  
 This fireside chat will explore the vision behind the CMS Health Tech Ecosystem and its potential to transform how health data is accessed and used across the healthcare system. The conversation will examine the value this approach can deliver for patients, providers, and innovators, and discuss how industry stakeholders can participate in building a more connected and consumer-centered digital health landscape.

1:15pm – 2:15pm	<p>The State of Interoperability Today: How EHRs are Enabling CMS 0057F  <b>Hans Buitendijk, Senior Director, Interoperability Strategy, Oracle Health</b>  <b>Jason Vogt, Manager Development, APIs and Structured Documents, Meditech</b>  <b>Sean Cotter, Software Developer, Epic</b>  <b>Mohammad Chebli, VP of Interoperability, NextGen</b>  <b>Gillian McCabe, Director of Product Management, Authorization Management, athenahealth</b></p> <p>Leaders from major EHR platforms will share what’s live at scale versus still in pilots, where interoperability is breaking down in real clinical workflows, and the biggest blockers to moving from point integrations to broad payer coverage without increasing burden. The discussion will also examine ecosystem readiness—how providers should assess payer and vendor performance, what governance models actually drive outcomes, and where WEDI can help establish practical standards, metrics, and playbooks to move the market forward.</p>
2:15pm – 2:30pm	Conference Break
2:30pm – 3:15pm	TBA
3:15pm – 4:00pm	TBA
4:15pm – 5:00pm	<p>The 2025 CAQH Index: Key Findings and Industry Perspectives  <b>Erin Richter Weber, Chief Policy &amp; Research Officer, CAQH (Panelist)</b>  <b>Stanley Nachimson, Principal, Nachimson Advisors (Panelist)</b>  <b>Heather McComas, Director, Administrative Simplification, American Medical Association (Panelist)</b>  <b>Cat Douglas, Senior Manager, EDI &amp; Health Technology Operations, Florida Blue</b></p> <p>This session will highlight key findings from the 2025 CAQH Index Report, offering insights into national trends in healthcare administrative efficiency, cost savings, and adoption of electronic transactions. Following the presentation, a panel of healthcare IT stakeholders will share real-world reactions, discussing what the results mean for the industry and where opportunities and challenges remain. Attendees will gain a practical understanding of how these findings translate into implementation priorities and future progress.</p>

**Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

9:00am – 9:15am	WEDI Welcome
9:15am – 9:30am	WEDI Workgroup Spotlight
9:30am – 10:00am	TBA
10:00am – 10:30am	TBA

- 10:30am – 10:45am Conference Break
- 10:45am – 11:30am **Driving Interoperability Forward: Strategic Updates from X12, NCPDP & HL7**  
**Cathy Sheppard, CEO, X12**  
**Margaret Weiker, Vice President of Standards Development, NCPDP**  
**Dan Vreeman, Chief Standards Development Officer, and Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer, HL7**  
 This session features updates from X12, NCPDP, and HL7, highlighting the latest developments in healthcare standards and interoperability. Speakers will cover organizational priorities, recent industry news, and new tools and resources designed to support more efficient and connected data exchange across the healthcare system.
- 11:30am – 12:00pm **Quick Wins for Prior Auth Efficiency- Sponsored by Edifecs, a Cotiviti Business**  
  
**Ankur Nagpal, Senior Director, Product Management, Edifecs, a Cotiviti Business**  
 In this presentation, Edifecs product leaders will focus on practical yet valuable process improvements that payers can make in short order to automate routine PA decisions and reduce unnecessary back and forth.
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm Conference Break
- 12:30pm – 1:15pm **Modernizing Pharmacy ePA: A Massachusetts Blue Print for Standards, Workflow, and Action**  
**Denny Brennan, Executive Director, Massachusetts Health Data Consortium**  
**Pooja Babbrah, Executive Vice President, Strategy & Industry Alignment, NCPDP**  
**Ross Martin, MD, Senior Consultant, Point-of-Care Partners**  
 Pharmacy electronic prior authorization (ePA) has supporting NCPDP standards and implementing vendors, yet many providers still experience significant friction when prescribing drugs. In Massachusetts, MHDC asked one of the leading national consulting firms, POCP, to examine why that gap persists and what practical actions could increase automation in this critical area of health care. This session will look at what the research found, where national standards fit, and what a realistic modernization roadmap looks like for stakeholders who want progress now.
- 1:15pm – 1:45pm **The Data Foundation Prior Authorization AI Requires- Sponsored by Itiliti Health**  
  
**Michael Lunzer, Founder & CEO, Itiliti Health**  
 AI is reshaping conversations about prior authorization modernization, but the payers making the most progress are not starting with AI. They are starting with data. Without a structured, machine-readable rules and policy foundation, AI-driven decisioning introduces variability, compliance risk, and gaps that APIs alone cannot close. This session will examine why policy data infrastructure is the prerequisite for scalable prior authorization

automation, what it takes to build it, and how health plans can evaluate whether their current foundation is ready to support the interoperability and automation demands of CMS-0057.

1:45pm – 2:00pm

Conference Break

2:00pm – 2:45pm

CMS-0057: From Compliance to Transformation—A Payer Perspective  
**Cara Wahmann, Executive Director, Clinical Oversight and Operational Support, Health Care Services Corporation (HCSC)**  
**Nancy Beavin, Director, Provider Connectivity, Medica**  
**Additional Panelists TBA**

This panel will bring together payer leaders to share the latest progress on CMS-0057 implementation, highlighting what is in planning, testing, and production across their organizations. Panelists will offer real-world perspectives on lessons learned, emerging best practices, and how workflows are evolving beyond compliance toward meaningful operational improvement. Attendees will gain insight into how payers are navigating the implementation journey and where they are beginning to see value across the ecosystem.

2:45pm – 3:30pm



Beyond Compliance: Real-World Lessons from Implementing CMS-0057-F  
Prior Authorization Automation

Sponsored by MCG Health

**Daniel Cawood, Senior Manager, Product Management, MCG Health**

With CMS-0057-F taking effect in 2027, payers must move beyond compliance to operationalizing API-driven prior authorization in real workflows. This session focuses on what it actually takes to get there.

Daniel Cawood, HL7 Da Vinci Community Champion and MCG Health's Sr. Manager of Product Management, will cover change management across clinical, operational, and technical teams; considerations when applying HL7® Da Vinci guides in real-world implementations, including scenarios that may require additional data; and architectural patterns for enriching provider-submitted data with payer-side context (e.g., benefits, prior auth history, UM rules).

The session will also address provider workflow integration, scalable interoperability beyond "API-only" approaches, and strategies for evolving legacy systems while improving decision quality, provider experience, and patient access to care.

3:30pm – 4:15pm

CMS-0057F in Practice: Provider Perspectives on Implementation and What's Next

**Mike Marchant, Director, Digital Applications, Sutter Community Connect**

**Michael Westover, Vice President, Payer Partnerships & Informatics, Providence**

Session Description Coming Soon

4:15pm – 5:00pm

**Advancing Prior Authorization: A Clearinghouse-to-Clearinghouse Pilot**  
**Crystal Ewing, Product Management Leader, Waystar**  
**Genevieve Morris, Vice President, Interoperability and Regulatory Strategy, Network, and Data, Optum**

The Cooperative Exchange will present its latest initiative, the Clearinghouse-to-Clearinghouse Prior Authorization Pilot Cohort, developed in collaboration with the Da Vinci Project's Trebuchet team. This session will provide an overview of the project's objectives, scope, and implementation strategy, led by the initiative's co-chairs.

Attendees will gain valuable insight into efforts to streamline prior authorization processes across clearinghouse networks, addressing a critical challenge in the healthcare industry. The discussion will highlight how this pilot aims to improve efficiency, enhance interoperability, and reduce administrative burden through more coordinated, standards-based approaches.

**Thursday, May 14, 2026**

While final details for May 14 are still being developed, the closing day of the 2026 WEDI Spring Conference (9:00am – 2:00pm) will focus on two critical areas shaping the future of health care administrative simplification: updates to the 008060 transactions and the recently released Attachments Final Rule. Sessions will explore the potential benefits, anticipated challenges, and key next steps for implementation, providing attendees with early insight into how these significant regulatory developments may impact workflows, standards adoption, and industry collaboration.