



Action Alert

The federal government is building a **national medical records system**. Health regulators want your comments on its governance. The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, part of the 2009 Recovery Act ("economic stimulus"), requires the feds to "establish a governance mechanism for the nationwide health information network" (NwHIN). The HHS ["request for information"](#) seeks your comments.

Deadline: 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 29**

Submit Comments: <http://www.regulations.gov>

Enter Search Code: HHS-OS-2012-0006

Action Suggestion:

Go online and offer a *PERSONALIZED version* of the following sample responses to at least two questions from the ["request for information"](#). *NOTE: non-original, fully standardized responses are often ignored.*

Sample Response to Question 2 (p. 26): I do not support the creation of a Nationwide Health Information Network, or placement of my data into the network without my informed written consent. Such an action is a violation of my 4th and 5th Amendment privacy rights.

Sample Response to Question 27 (p. 42): If the NwHIN is created despite my objection, I support an opt-in approach. I support opt-in consent requirements for both placement of my data in the NwHIN and exchange of my data by the NwHIN. I oppose the three exceptions to consent proposed on page 41. Without exception, there should be no exchange, no storage and no use of my data without my consent.