

Policy, Advocacy, and Community Update JAN 2025



Alan Constantian,
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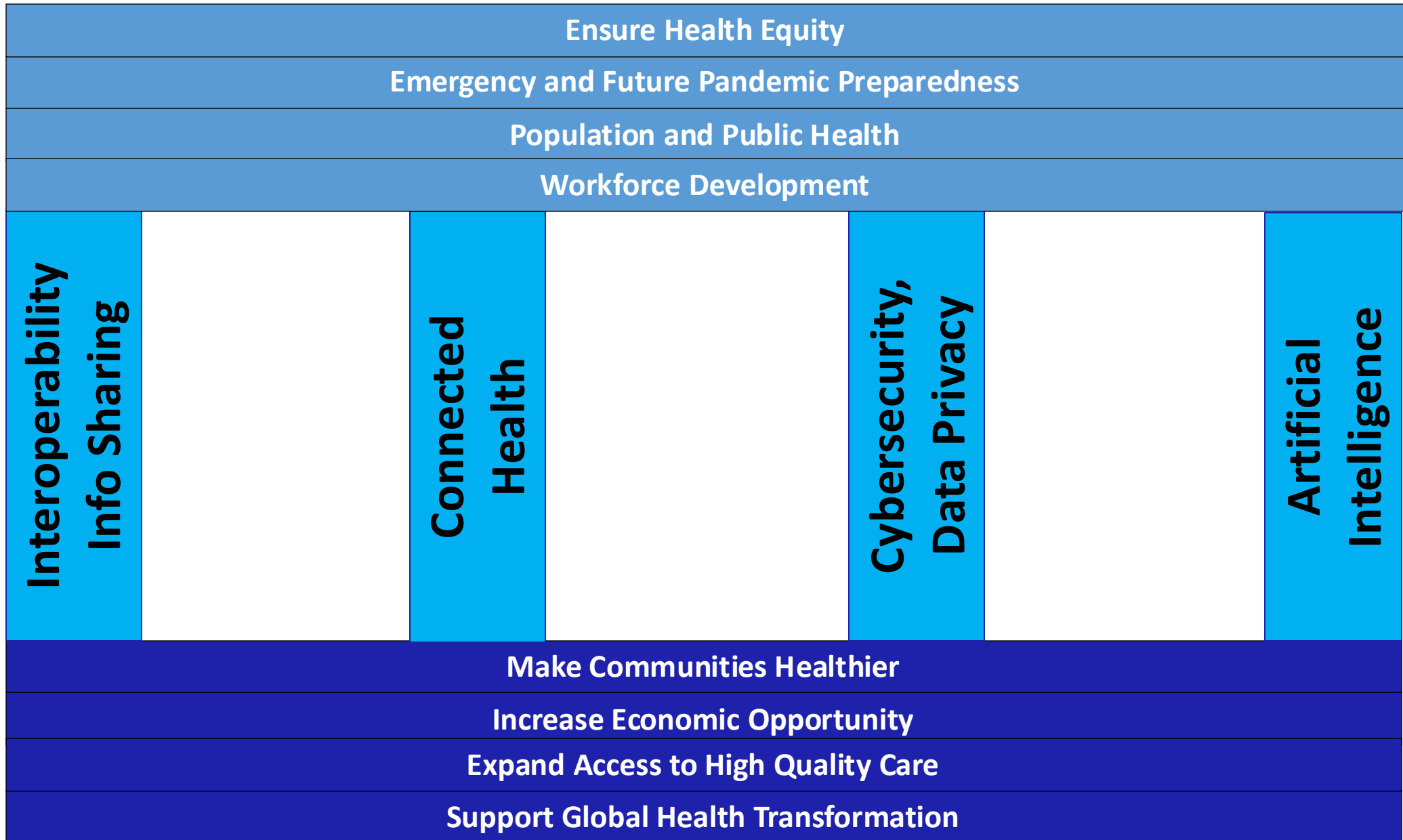
Dan Blum,
Advocacy &
Community Chair
Emeritus

Policy, Advocacy, and Community Agenda JAN 2025

- **HIMSS Overview and Update for Policy and Advocacy Themes**
- **Community News**
- **Federal Update**
 - **Headlines**
 - **By Agency: CMS, FDA, CDC, ONC, DC**
- **What's Coming Up**

HIMSS Overview

- **HIMSS Mission:** Reform the global health ecosystem through the power of information and technology
- **HIMSS Policy Priorities- Pillars:**
 - Interoperability & Info Sharing
 - Connected Health
 - Cybersecurity and Data Privacy
 - Artificial Intelligence
- **12 Guiding Principles**



2025 HIMSS Key Policy Initiatives

- **Health Equity as a key driver for all policy development!**
- Telehealth and Connected Care flexibilities
- Data Interoperability
- **Trusted Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare**
- Maternal Health – leveraging technology to reduce maternal mortality and eliminate disparities
- Public Health Data Modernization



Federal Policy Update – JAN 2025

- **Telehealth Flexibilities:** Congress passed as part of the December 2024 Continuing Resolution a provision that extends most of the COVID-era flexibilities for telehealth appointment reimbursements until March 31, 2025. Not extended and now expired are provisions allowing first dollar coverage for telehealth appointments paid by Health Savings Accounts or High Deductible Health Plans.

CMS Update– JAN 2025 (Alan Constantian Covering Uche Anaeto's beat)

- **Important News Since Last Report:**
 - **Dr. Mehmet Oz nominated by President-elect Trump as CMS Administrator.**
 - **Marketplace enrollment reaches 23.6M consumers for 2025 coverage as of Jan 4, 2025, a jump from the 20.4M consumers covered in 2024. Marketplace enrollment ended Jan 15, 2025 for coverage in 2025.**
- **Upcoming Agency Specific Events:**
 - **March 5, 2025, 1230-430: Navigating CMS: Programs, Policies, Procurements and Policies Seminar with Panelists.**
 - **Columbia MD. In person only. Registration Fee required.**

ONC Update– JAN 2025 (Keerti Resapu Reporting)

- **Important News Since Last Report:**

- The ONC was restructured as the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy (ASTP) in mid-2024, taking on a broader mandate to lead technology, data policy, and strategy initiatives across the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The ASTP will continue implementing the HITECH Act and 21st Century Cures Act while driving efforts to improve interoperability, enhance patient access to health data, and modernize health IT infrastructure. The role was also assigned as the interim AI lead for HHS.
- Micky Tripathy, Ph.D. serves in a political appointment but one which does not require Senate confirmation. Therefore, he would be expected to submit his resignation and have it accepted by President Trump following the latter's inauguration.

- **Upcoming Agency Specific Events:**

- Interoperability Standards Workgroup - Jan 21,2025
- Health Equity by Design Task Force 2024 – Jan 22,2025
- Interoperability Standards Workgroup – Jan 28,2025
- Health Equity by Design Task Force 2024 – Jan 29,2025

FDA Update– JAN 2025 (Sneha Patel Reporting)

- **Important News Since Last Report:**

- Dr. Marty Makary nominated by President-elect Trump as FDA Commissioner
- Draft Guidance for Developers of Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Medical Devices issued – public commenting requested by April 7, 2025
- Proposed framework to advance the credibility of AI models used in drug and biological product submissions – public commenting requested by April 7, 2025
- FDA Transition Team taking shape with former Trump official Lowell Zeta leading the transition work at FDA

- **Upcoming Agency Specific Event:**

- Feb. 18, 2025 – Webinar on Draft Guidance: Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Device Software Functions: Lifecycle Management and Marketing Submission Recommendations

CDC Update– JAN 2025 (Deepali Pushpal Reporting)

Latest News:

- Former House of Representatives Member (R-FL) Dr Dave Weldon nominated for the role of CDC Director by President-elect Trump
- CDC monitoring spike in HMPV (Human Metapneumovirus) Cases in China and US.
- First H5N1 Bird Flu death reported on 6th Jan 2025 in Louisiana, United States.
- COVID-19 cases increase by 6.3% nationwide, highest in Pacific Northwest.

Upcoming Agency Specific Events:

➤ **Veterinary Student Day 2025**

Event Agenda: Presentations by CDC and non-CDC veterinary speakers showcasing the many roles of veterinarians in public health. This year's theme will be “**Public Health Vets: All Paws on Deck!**”

Date: January 27, 2025; Time: 7:15 AM - 5:00 PM ET

Location: Atlanta Georgia, 30329

➤ **ACIP Meeting** (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices)

ACIP holds three regular meetings each year to review scientific data and vote on vaccine recommendations.

Date: February 26-27, 2025

Location: Atlanta, Georgia and virtually

DC Update– JAN 2025 (Shreya Prasanna Reporting)

Important News Since Last Report:

- **Cedar Hill Regional Medical Center GW Health** is the first full-service hospital in DC in over 20 years, offering 136 beds, trauma and emergency departments, maternal health services, and a 500-car garage.
 - The \$434.4 million facility will integrate with George Washington Hospital and local urgent care centers, enhancing clinical care and providing community-focused services.

Upcoming Agency Specific Events:

ACH's (Advocates for Community Health) 2025 Revamped Policy Priorities Webinar on January 22nd at Noon(ET)

Registration link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrdOCprjMqEtL8MM2t3S7L9f8GhM1z9cvd#/registration>

What's Coming Up

Jan 28-29: AFCEA Health IT Summit. Wash DC. Registration fee required

Feb 10-11: HHS Industry Day (first ever). Bethesda MD. Free, but registration required

Feb 12 (8-1130): MD HIMSS Education Event Marriottsville MD.
Innovations in HCD, A Spotlight on Telehealth in Maryland. Registration fee required

What's Coming Up

Feb 19: Orange Slices Engage FedGov. College Park MD. Registration fee required

Mar 3-6: HIMSS International Conference. Las Vegas, NV. Registration fee required