

CMSS Strategic Priority: Digital Transformation of Healthcare, Education and Research

Healthcare in the United States is in the midst of a dramatic digital transformation. While digital transformation can lead to greater efficiency and improved care, these efforts need to be supported by the knowledge and science that the nation's specialty societies bring to the table. Specialty societies can use their expertise to support and translate the explosion of data and information to the betterment of patient care. Specialty societies can also ensure that patients are protected from market-driven change and perverse incentives in the digital space.

Specialty society engagement in the evolving ecosystem can help harness the potential of knowledge-driven digital services to support clinical practice, research, practice guidelines, clinical registries, care pathways, professional education and quality improvement. Clinical input and testing are needed to assess new tools, including AI and machine learning, to assess their effectiveness and avoidance of unintended consequences.

The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed vulnerabilities and opportunities for rapid adoption of digital technology in healthcare, clinical research, and education. For example, clinical registries were rapidly adapted and developed to address Covid-19. With funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, CMSS's recent [webinar series](#) on clinical registries and Covid-19 offered important new opportunities for digital transformation of clinical registries, including greater automation from digital sources, cloud-based computing, and opportunities for collaboration across societies.

The CMSS Digital Transformation initiative will focus on the following areas:

- Ensure specialty society participation and collaboration in the design and functionality of emerging digital systems with leading industry companies and thought leaders, including specialty societies as trusted sources of information
- Develop a shared repository of educational materials on digital transformation for specialty societies
- Develop adoptable set of standards and principles on safe, ethical and effective use of digital tools (e.g., AI, machine learning) in collaboration with thought leaders in academia and vendors in the digital marketplace
- Support collaborative efforts to identify and share effective strategies to digitally transform clinical registries, including use of digital sources, cloud-based computing, and opportunities for collaboration across societies
- Identify and share emerging strategies for successful adoption and implementation for telehealth and virtual care across specialty societies
- Identify and share effective strategies to support digital transformation of virtual education and learning

Actions to date:

1. Supported [webinar series](#) on clinical registries and Covid-19
2. Focused the CMSS Virtual Annual Meeting on October 28-30, 2020 on ***Covid-19 and Beyond: Digital Transformation of Healthcare, Education and Research***. The meeting will focus on three

tracks: 1) harness and share lessons learned on the potential of virtual care and telehealth; 2) digital strategies to support clinical registries, research and guidelines; and 3) evolving best practices in virtual education and meetings

3. Acquisition of the National Quality Registry Network (NQRN) will enable greater CMSS engagement with specialty societies and a broader group of clinical registries to drive digital transformation through education and collaborative activities