

# Comments in Support of the CHIME National Patient ID Challenge

“Patient identification and matching are acute challenges in healthcare with measureable patient safety impact that affects the entire health system every day that they aren’t addressed. It’s also clearly an impediment to trusted, efficient information exchange between healthcare professionals, and we’re reaching a point where we simply can’t afford to be grappling with these same challenges. There is too much riding on the exchange of clinical data—improved management of chronic diseases, a reduction in unnecessary systemic costs and our ability to move forward rapidly with exciting new opportunities such as precision medicine. We must look at this issue and others through the Open lens that allows information to flow more freely, and it’s exciting to see this CHIME initiative take a similar approach. The CHIME National Patient ID Challenge is yet another example of the private sector innovation and commitment that I expect will ultimately lead us to the right solution in this area.”

**Paul M. Black**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Allscripts Healthcare Solutions, Inc.**

“The development of a technology solution to accurately identify patients would be a tremendous benefit to patient care, interoperability, and health information exchange. AHIMA is pleased to support the CHIME National Patient ID Challenge.”

**Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**American Health Information Management Association**

“To ensure effective patient care, interoperable electronic health records must be supported by a reliable national patient matching strategy. We look forward to seeing potential creative solutions supported by CHIME’s efforts.”

**Steven J. Stack, M.D.**

**President**

**American Medical Association**

“Creating a viable means for identifying and locating patient records is an essential building block for patient-centric interoperability. We applaud CHIME’s efforts to echo Cerner’s call and that of others in the industry for the free flow of data across the care continuum, regardless of geographic or technological boundaries.”

**Zane Burke**

**President**

**Cerner**

“CommonWell Health Alliance believes that the key to scalable nationwide interoperability is to put the person at the center of exchange. As such, CommonWell is supportive of any effort that focuses on the critical issue of more accurately matching patients. We applaud CHIME as it endeavors to accelerate the development of a national solution for patient identification and look forward to aligning that solution with our nationwide person-centric data exchange services.”

**Jitin Asnaani**

**Executive Director**

**CommonWell Health Alliance**

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“Providers specifically tagged the lack of a solid, foolproof national patient identifier as a core missing element in delivering timely patient care in KLAS’ 2015 Interoperability Study. Let’s get this problem solved.”

**Kent Gale**  
**Co-founder**  
**KLAS**

*(Note: CHIME and KLAS partnered in development of the 2015 Interoperability Study that identified key barriers and potential solutions to greater interoperability and information exchange.)*

“CHIME’s National Patient ID Challenge will propel innovation in patient identity management, a critical issue central to the success of health IT interoperability. We’re excited to see what the competition inspires.”

**Mariann Yeager**  
**CEO**  
**The Sequoia Project**

“HIMSS has been working on patient data matching/patient identity integrity since 2008. We recognize the need for and value of collaboration to help advance the development of patient matching solutions, including our current project with our HHS Innovator-in-Residence who is addressing this topic. As we all come together to address the data security challenge of patient matching, we support the efforts of CHIME to expand the effort to identify a possible solution for patient matching.”

**Carla Smith, MA, FHIMSS, CNM**  
**Executive Vice President**  
**HIMSS**