

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Health Information Technology and Privacy: Is There a Path to Consensus?

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JODI DANIEL is director of the Office of Policy and Research in the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), part of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). She is responsible for considering the policy implications of key health information technology activities and coordinating health information policy discussions within HHS. Previously, she served as the senior counsel for health information technology in the Office of the General Counsel of HHS. Ms. Daniel founded and chaired the health information technology practice group within HHS and founded the interagency working group on antitrust and health information technology. As an attorney in the Civil Rights Division of the Office of General Counsel, she was a member of the core team responsible for developing policies and drafting the final HIPAA Privacy Rule. Before joining HHS, Ms. Daniel was a health care associate at Ropes & Gray, where she advised health care providers and payers on transactional, regulatory and legislative issues. Ms. Daniel earned a law degree from Georgetown University and an M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University.

DEBORAH PEEL is a practicing physician and national expert on health privacy. In 2004, Dr. Peel founded Patient Privacy Rights, which works to “restore your right to decide who can access and use your health information.” Through Patient Privacy Rights, Dr. Peel formed the bipartisan Coalition for Patient Privacy, including the ACLU, the Family Research Council and the American Conservative Union. The nearly 50 organizations in the coalition urged Congress to add privacy protections to health information technology legislation in 2006 and 2007. In 2007, the world’s largest technology corporation, Microsoft, agreed to adhere to the coalition’s privacy principles and be audited on whether its HealthVault system for electronic health records protects privacy as pledged. Dr. Peel was named #4 on the list of the “100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare” by *Modern Healthcare* magazine in 2007. This year she and Patient Privacy Rights will launch PrivacyRightsCertified, a consumer-led organization to certify electronic systems and software that meet the toughest national and international standards for privacy.

JOHN ROTHER is director of policy and strategy for AARP. He is responsible for federal and state public policy formulation and for policy research and analysis across issues that affect Americans 50 and older. He is an expert on a wide range of issues including Social Security, pensions, Medicare, private health insurance, Medicaid, long-term care, older workers and consumer protection. Mr. Rother came to AARP in 1984 after four years as staff director of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging under Chairman John Heinz (R-PA). Prior to that, he was special counsel for health and labor for Senator Jacob Javits (R-NY). In 1996, he took a year-long sabbatical to study the future of the baby boomer generation. Mr. Rother serves on several boards and commissions, including the National Committee for Quality Assurance, the American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation, and The National Coalition on Health Care. He received his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he edited the Law Review, after graduating with honors from Oberlin College.