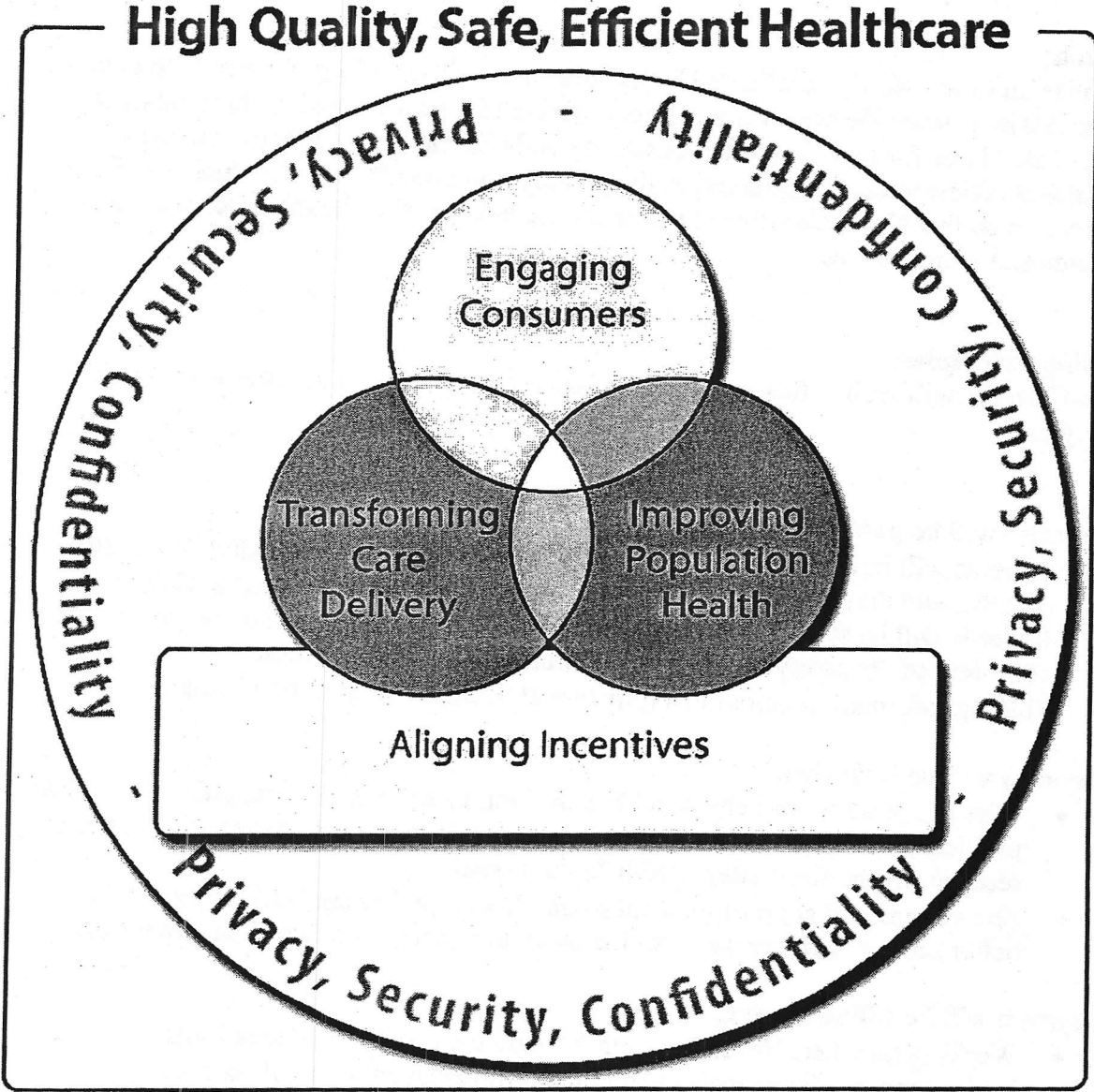


North Carolina
Health Information Technology Strategic Planning Task Force



"Improving Our Nations's Health and Healthcare Through Information Technology"
eHealth Initiative Blueprint: Builing Consensus for Common Action

Vision:

Healthier people.....healthier communities.....prospering through technology

Mission:

The mission of the North Carolina's Health Information Technology System is to create and maintain a statewide healthcare delivery system that puts the patient first, relies on national standards for technical interoperability and clinical best practices, creates operational efficiencies, and guarantees the privacy and security of individual health information so that North Carolina experiences the best possible health outcomes for residents and communities.

Guiding Principles:

North Carolina will realize this vision and mission by adhering to the following guiding principles:

The system will be **patient-centered**.

- Patients will have easier access to and more control over their individual health records, and they will be able to play a more active role in managing their health.
- Records will be stored and transmitted in secure environments so that patients are confident of the safety and privacy of their personal information.
- Sharing information across disciplines will improve continuity of care.

The system will be **inclusive**.

- Whether physical or behavioral health, long or short term care, public or private provider, insured or uninsured, veteran or civilian, rural or metropolitan, patient records will be fully integrated into the system.
- The system will support medical research and quality analysis and result in better service delivery and provide more transparency of medical outcomes.

The system will be **collaborative**.

- Working together, North Carolina's hospitals, providers, educational institutions, public agencies and non-profit organizations will improve the health of residents and communities.
- Collaboration among communities will enhance North Carolina's response to public health threats and national emergencies.
- The ability to analyze and share data across entities will result in reduced duplication of services, identification of best practices, better utilization of

resources, better practice management, and inform future policy and planning decisions and expenditures.

- The system will be sustained by a network of supports to provide technical and professional training and consultation.

The system will be **innovative**.

- Ongoing research and analysis of changing needs and technologies will keep the system dynamic and timely.
- Implementation and continuous improvement strategies will require an iterative approach that maximizes resources and follows national standards and certification requirements.