NOV 15 2019

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to share updates on recent developments associated with modernizing Agency Health Information Technology (Health IT). On November 12, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Chief Technology Officer released two reports on this topic: "Strategic Options for the Modernization of the Indian Health Service Health Information Technology Final Report" and "Strategic Options for the Modernization of the Indian Health Service Health Information Technology Roadmap Executive Summary."

The reports provide a roadmap to support improved clinical and non-clinical operations in health care facilities throughout the IHS, Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations. Taken together, the findings identify key improvement opportunities, related work initiatives for implementing Health IT, along with estimated timelines and performance indicators. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of the reports for your information. The HHS Health IT Modernization Project documents will also be available on the IHS Web site at https://www.ihs.gov/.

To continue engaging Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations on this topic, the IHS will be hosting three webinars on the HHS Health IT Modernization Project documents. Please call in and join us on any of the following dates:

Health IT Modernization Project Webinars

- November 20, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time)
- December 3, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (Eastern Time)
- December 4, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time)

ADOBE CONNECT: https://ihs.cosocloud.com/rpi5fjirhh0y/   ROOM PASSCODE: ihs123
WEBINAR DIAL-IN NUMBER: (800) 832-0736   PARTICIPANT PASSCODE: 3014886

We will also continue to keep Tribal Consultation and Urban Confer open on Health IT Modernization to receive your input. If you have any questions about the webinars, or comments on the HHS reports, please contact Mr. Randall Hughes, Tribal Liaison, Office of Information Technology, IHS, by telephone at (301) 348-3402 or by e-mail at randall.hughes@ihs.gov.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHSA
Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service
Principal Deputy Director

Enclosures