PIDS

PIDS will improve patients' access to their information through better privacy protection, security, and ease of access, facilitating better participation in their own healthcare.

PIDS will provide patient authentication functions necessary for electronic healthcare such as the delivery of electronic health records; it will help healthcare providers meet "Meaningful Use" requirements of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and receive associated incentive payments.

PIDS
an eCitizen Foundation - Kantara Initiative Collaboration

PIDS@patientidservice.us
http://design.patientidservice.us/

202.621.0173
703.851.2147

Patient ID Service (PIDS)
design.patientidservice.us

eCitizen Foundation - Kantara Initiative Collaboration

Tel: 202 621 0173   PIDS@patientidservice.us

PIDS—Overview

The Patient ID Service (PIDS) project, initiated in 2010, is a collaboration between the eCitizen Foundation and the Kantara Initiative's Healthcare Identity Assurance Work Group. This effort received generous support from the OpenID Foundation of Japan. Phase I has been to design an open, shared architecture providing a comprehensive, federated approach to patient identification and authentication for healthcare use.

This project leverages previous work by the Kantara Initiative and the OpenID Foundation among others and uses existing business, legal and technology components to address needs for patient identity functions and defines gaps that will lead to further development. Some examples of how the architecture is expected to serve include: facilitating healthcare providers' meeting of "Meaningful Use" requirements and in the implementation of Health Information Exchanges, Health Insurance Exchanges, Electronic Health Record (EHR) or Personal Health Record (PHR) systems. PIDS is designed to deliver capabilities to patients to participate significantly in their own healthcare, access, and to the extent appropriate, control their personal health information.

Use Case

A student attending college out of state requires medical treatment. Information and records of prior treatment from her home state doctor will be helpful in the new case. The student chooses to request the prior records, receiving a copy, storing these in a personal health record and forwarding a copy to the new doctor. Conducting this transaction will require the authentication of the student's identity to a number of systems. PIDS will help make this type of transaction simpler for the patient and cheaper and better for the relying parties. While focusing on this use case the PIDS effort will produce a system providing needed functions across the healthcare sector and beyond to other sectors extending the utility of existing and future credentialing efforts.

Participate in PIDS— Join the Team

Patient authentication is a big hurdle still to be overcome on the path to electronic healthcare. Participants in PIDs are solving interesting, important issues.

Phase I is done and Phase II is ready to start. We are searching for people and organizations who have the capabilities and resources to help make PIDS a reality and a success. The PIDS team will develop implementations, prove interoperability, obtain certifications, develop a roadmap for future work, and publish the software and documentation under an open source license for public use.

Call, email or visit our website to find out more and to join the PIDS effort.

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