



## HIMSS

### **Seven Key HIT Takeaways from HIMSS 2013**

*By Tony Schueth, Editor in Chief*

Former National Coordinator for Health Information Technology Dr. David Brailer once called the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) a cornucopia of interesting and professionally relevant activities and events for a health care information technology (HIT) professional—a wide array of tempting sessions, an exhibit hall brimming with innovations, the opportunity to meet with customers or clients and an occasion to generally interact with the HIT universe. It's also the affair around which companies plan, making it a bellwether.

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## Population Health

### **Population Health Management: A New market Force**

*By Maria Friedman, Senior Consultant*

As we mentioned in the last issue of HIT Perspectives, population health is an under-the-radar market force that will be gaining more traction in 2013. It has been largely overlooked by many payers, providers and vendors because they think it doesn't apply to them—that it belongs solely in the realms of public health and academia. They couldn't be more wrong.

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## Electronic Prior Authorization

### **NCPDP's New Prior Authorization Standard is Nearly Ready for Prime Time**

*By Brian Bamberger, Senior Consultant*

The National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) is poised to release its standardized transaction framework for electronic prior authorization (ePA). ePA allows the provider to electronically request a PA question set from the payer, electronically return the answers and receive a near real-time response. NCPDP's membership is expected to approve ePA by ballot sometime this summer, and the new transactions will become part of the NCPDP SCRIPT standard.

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