Reviewer's report

Title: A Draft Framework for Measuring Progress towards the Development of a National Healthcare Information Infrastructure

Version: 1 Date: 9 March 2005

Reviewer: ST Liaw

Reviewer's report:

General

This paper is consistent with the generally accepted approach to the evaluation of new and innovative technologies â€“ the implementation must be available as a robust and useful system, which must be used if it is to be meaningfully evaluated.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

1. The development, implementation and monitoring of interoperability standards is critical and should be an integral component of the evaluation framework. It could have a role as another axis or as a compulsory starting point for the axes.

2. Especially in the formative evaluation phase, there is a role for qualitative evaluation methodology such as interviews, focus groups and observational studies.

3. Change management (education, professional development, capacity building) is a critical dimension of progress which needs to be measured.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests