

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PUBLIC HEALTH IN HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (HIT) STANDARDIZATION – A NEW WEB-BASED RESOURCE

BALTIMORE, MD April 12, 2011 – The Public Health Data Standards Consortium (PHDSC) has launched a web-based [Resource Center on Public Health in HIT Standardization](#). The Resource Center contains the [HIT Standards Resource Module](#) and the [HIT Adoption Stories Module](#). Both Modules were implemented from the PHDSC [Business Case: Role of Public Health in National HIT Standardization](#) as a part of the **PHDSC Coordinated Public Health Action Plan on HIT Standards**. The Resource Center is designed to address barriers for public health participation in HIT standardization.

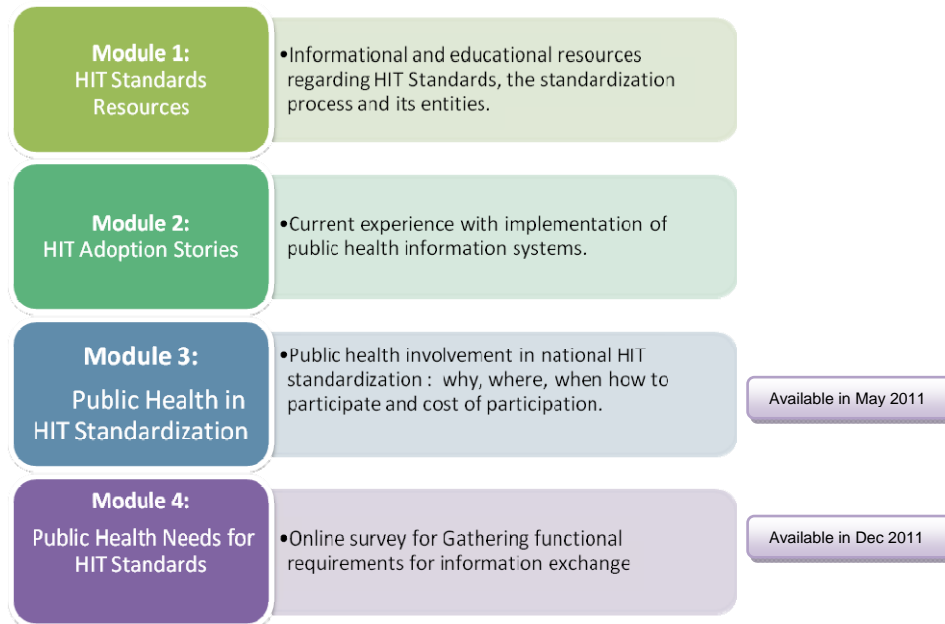
Within the Resource Center, the [HIT Standards Resource Module](#) is an informational resource that describes HIT standardization phases (Needs and Priorities for Standards, Standards Development, Standards Harmonization, Standards Testing, Standards-based HIT Product Certification, and Deployment); and standardization entities.

Within the Resource Center, the [HIT Adoption Stories Module](#) is a searchable database on the varied uses of and activities related to health information technology in public health. The stories cover local, state, federal and international public health agencies, public health research, public health interoperability and standards development, and HIT resources, as well as broader HIT activities that affect public health.

The database currently contains 300 HIT stories which will continue to expand. The [Submit a Story Tool](#) allows users to add stories about public health HIT that they are aware of or involved in. Each “**Story**” includes a short overview of the **HIT** example, activity, resource, or effort and a web link. Where available, the successful outcomes; barriers and challenges; lessons learned; and related web links and/ or journal citations are also provided. The stories are searchable by a set of defined criteria, such as public health topic (e.g., immunization, global health), information exchange stakeholders, business processes, system functions, technology products, and other.

The PHDSC [Resource Center](#) can be used by public health stakeholders to inform health community about their experience in using HIT and to compare this experience with other HIT users; clinicians involved in information exchanges with public health agencies; researchers; academicians teaching public health and health sciences informatics; consumers in advocating for specific services, HIT vendors, and other stakeholders.

Two additional modules will be launched in 2011, Public Health in HIT Standardization, and Public Health Needs for HIT Standards.



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**PHDSC** is a national non-profit membership-based organization of federal, state and local health agencies; professional associations; academia; public and private sector organizations; international members; and individuals.

***The Consortium is committed to bringing a common voice from the public health community to the national efforts of standardization of health information for healthcare and population health.***

The Consortium **promotes** the electronic connectivity between public health and clinical care; **represents** public health interests and needs in standards development and harmonization efforts,; **represents** public health interests and needs on issues of privacy, confidentiality and information security; **identifies** priorities for the new national standards for population health; and **educates** the public health community about standards and the health information technology community about public health. For more information about the Consortium, go to

<http://www.phdsc.org>

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