



Appointment of Chairman of the Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel

John D. Halamka, MD, MS is Chief Information Officer of Harvard Medical School, Chief Information Officer of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Chief Executive Officer of MA-SHARE, Chairman of the New England Health Electronic Data Interchange Network (NEHEN), Chief Information Officer of the Harvard Clinical Research Institute (HCRI), and an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Halamka completed his undergraduate studies at Stanford University where he received a degree in Medical Microbiology and a degree in Public Policy with a focus on technology issues. While at Stanford he served as research assistant to Dr. Edward Teller, Dr. Milton Friedman, and presidential candidate John B. Anderson. He authored three books on technology related issues and formed a software development firm, Ibis Research Labs, Inc. Additionally, he served as a columnist for Infoworld, technical editor of Computer Language Magazine and technology consultant to several startup companies.

In 1984, Dr. Halamka entered medical school at the University of California San Francisco and simultaneously pursued graduate work in Bioengineering at the University of California, Berkeley, focusing on technology issues in medicine. During medical school and graduate training, he continued his business activities and developed Ibis Research Labs into a 25 person software consultancy, specializing in medical and financial information interchange. Ibis was sold to senior management in 1992.

Dr. Halamka served his residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in the Department of Emergency Medicine. While at Harbor-UCLA he was an active member of the information systems team and developed a hospital-wide knowledge base for policies, procedures, and protocols. Further, he was instrumental in creating an on-line medical record, a quality control system, and several systems for medical education. His research focus during residency was building automated triage tools for patients infected with HIV.

In 1996, Dr. Halamka joined the faculty of Harvard Medical School and continues to integrate his knowledge of medicine and technology focusing on the use of the Internet to exchange clinical patient data. His research includes security / confidentiality issues, scalability issues, and implementation of standards for exchange of administrative and clinical information. As a clinician as well as researcher, Dr. Halamka uses these tools to improve the care of the patients he treats in the Beth Israel Deaconess Emergency Department. He is also an active teacher, lecturing on both medical and technology topics to the students, residents, and faculty of Harvard and MIT.

As Chief Information Officer at Harvard Medical School, he oversees all educational, research and administrative including all electronic courseware development. As Chief Information Officer at Beth Israel Deaconess, he is responsible for all clinical, financial, administrative and academic information technology serving 3000 doctors, 12000 employees and one million patients. As Chief Executive Officer of MA-SHARE, he oversees the Regional Healthcare Information Organization in Massachusetts which develops clinical exchange applications and policies. As Chairman of NEHEN, he oversees the HIPAA transactions exchanged among the payors and providers in New England. As Chief Information Officer of HCRI, he oversees the data management of clinical trials associated with Harvard Medical School.