



February 28, 2024

Elizabeth Otero
RFP Coordinator
Puerto Rico Medicaid Program
Puerto Rico Department of Health
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Subject: Letter of Support for Secure HIT - RFP 2024-PRMP-MES-HIE-001

Dear Ms. Otero,

I am writing to you on behalf of DirectTrust, a not-for-profit, 501(c)(6) vendor-neutral alliance dedicated to instilling trust in the exchange of health data. The organization serves as a forum for a consensus-driven community focused on health communication, an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards development organization, an accreditation and certification body through EHNAC (the Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission), and a developer of trust frameworks and supportive services for secure information exchange like Direct Secure Messaging and trusted, compliant document submission. Our mission emphasizes the importance of trust in the exchange of health information and the facilitation of interoperability across diverse networks and platforms within the healthcare industry. In this capacity, we acknowledge Secure HIT's status as an Accredited Health Information Service Provider (HISP) within the DirectTrust network and their participation in the DirectTrust Accredited Trust Anchor Bundle.

As a recognized entity under our accreditation program, Secure HIT has demonstrated compliance with a comprehensive framework of standards and practices designed to ensure the secure and efficient exchange of health information. This framework encompasses critical aspects such as privacy, security, and interoperability, aligned with national standards and best practices in health information exchange (HIE).

While DirectTrust does not endorse any specific organization over another, we can confirm that Secure HIT's accreditation signifies their commitment to maintaining the highest standards in the management, exchange, and security of health information. This commitment is essential for any entity tasked with the operation of a Health Information Exchange, especially within the scope of a Medicaid program aimed at enhancing patient care and outcomes through the secure and effective use of health information technology.

Secure HIT's accreditation by DirectTrust highlights their capability to operate within the complex regulatory and technical requirements of the healthcare sector, including:



- Implementing robust security measures to protect health information against unauthorized access and threats.
- Ensuring interoperability through adherence to standards that support seamless data exchange across diverse healthcare systems.
- Demonstrating operational efficiency and reliability in the provision of health information services.
- Complying with healthcare regulations, including HIPAA and HITECH, to safeguard patient privacy and data security.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this information and support the objectives of the Puerto Rico Medicaid Program's Health Information Exchange Operations and Technical Services RFP. Our acknowledgment of Secure HIT's accredited status with DirectTrust is intended to inform your selection process by highlighting their adherence to recognized standards and practices in health information exchange.

Please feel free to contact me for any further information or clarification regarding DirectTrust's accreditation program and its implications for HIE operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SS" with a stylized flourish.

Scott Stuewe
President and CEO
DirectTrust
913.222.0630