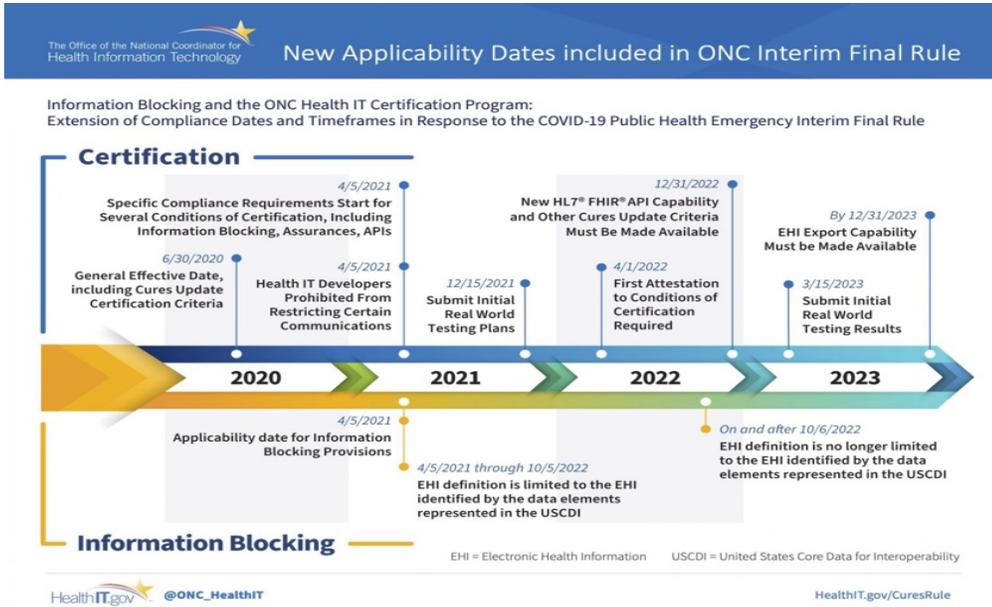
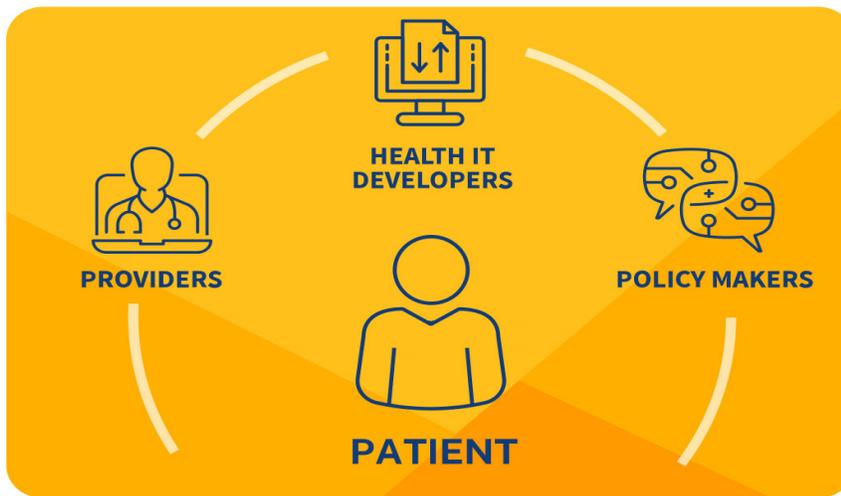


Who is considered an actor under the ONC Cures Act Final Rule?



The ONC Final Rule applies to **healthcare clinicians and certified health IT developers** (actors) using electronic health information (EHI) and essentially prevents information blocking practices. Mar 31, 2021

What is ONC Cures Act?



The rule is designed to **give patients and their healthcare providers secure access to health information**. It also aims to increase innovation and competition by fostering an ecosystem of new applications to provide patients with more choices in their healthcare.

Who is covered by the information blocking rule?

Yes, **any individual or entity that meets the definition of at least one category of actor** — “health care provider,” “health IT developer of certified health IT,” or “health information network or health information exchange” — as defined in 45 CFR 171.102 is subject to the information blocking regulation in 45 CFR part ...

Does the Cures Act apply to dentists?

Building on the 21st Century Cures Act, these new regulations will further help improve patient access to electronic health information. **The information blocking regulations apply to nearly all health care providers** (doctors, dentists, therapists, practitioners) and others who maintain health information. Nov 30, 2020

Promoting Modern Health IT for All Stakeholders

The final rule, once implemented, will benefit the various participants in the U.S. health care system in a variety of ways.

For the American public as a whole, the final rule promotes innovation in the health care technology ecosystem to deliver better information, more conveniently, to patients and clinicians. It also promotes transparency, using modern computers, smartphones, and software to provide opportunities for the American public to regain visibility in the services, quality, and costs of health care.

Congress passed the Cures Act with the intent that we can start to unravel the opaque schemes that are so common in American health care today.

Making Patient Data Requests Easy and Inexpensive

Modern technology allows clinicians and hospitals to easily provide patients with access to their information in a fully automated, low-cost manner. Patients will be able to access their health information from an app of their choice. Secure, standardized application programming interfaces (APIs) allow for this access without special effort on the part of the clinician.

Allowing Choice of Apps

Clinicians, hospitals, and health systems should be allowed to benefit from a competitive, vibrant app marketplace. The ONC Cures Act Final Rule calls for open APIs, which encourages secure access to data for applications. The final rule will help ensure these certified APIs are made available in a way that is safe, secure, and affordable. These APIs support innovation in the marketplace for health IT and app developers.

Implementation

The Cures Act prohibits information blocking and defines the practices that are considered reasonable and necessary activities that would not constitute information blocking. ONC's Cures Act Final Rule establishes exceptions to allow clinicians and hospitals common sense operational flexibility, including protecting patient privacy and security as well as handling situations where moving data is technically infeasible.

Improving Patient Safety

The final rule aims for a thoughtful balance between patient and clinician needs. For example, it encourages transparency around patient safety issues within health IT, while also attempting to protect the intellectual property rights of health IT developers who have made large investments in building user interfaces and workflows.