



The Physicians' EHR Coalition (PEHRC) was established in 2004 to help physicians, particularly those in small- and medium-sized ambulatory care medical practices, acquire and use affordable, standards-based electronic health records (EHRs) and other health IT to improve quality, enhance patient safety, and increase efficiency.

Over almost two decades, PEHRC and its members, medical specialty societies representing more than 600,000 physicians, have achieved many of its goals. PEHRC has supported its member societies in addressing EHRs and other digital issues through shared positions and resources. Industry-wide, PEHRC policy comments have provided valuable contributions to health policy and operating standards.

Since PEHRC was founded, the original focus on usability of EHRs has evolved into a broader digital landscape, as health information and technology are integral parts of care delivery and physician society efforts. While the work on EHRs and digital transformation is not done, HIMSS and CMSS must explore newer, more effective vehicles to ensure that societies work collaboratively on digital health, while maintaining the critical connection between providers, patients, and the healthcare community.

The time is right to sunset PEHRC as an independent membership coalition. HIMSS and CMSS remain committed to providing opportunities for physicians in medical practices and across specialty societies to influence the future of digital health, including the longstanding focus on optimizing quality, safety, and usability of EHRs.

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**Gwynne Jelbaoui**

Program Manager, Clinical Informatics, HIMSS  
[gwynne.jelbaoui@himss.org](mailto:gwynne.jelbaoui@himss.org)

**Aisha Wolo**

Senior Partner Engagement Specialist, HIMSS  
[aisha.wolo@himss.org](mailto:aisha.wolo@himss.org)



Council of Medical  
Specialty Societies

As the national organization of specialty societies, the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) represents 48 specialty societies representing more than 800,000 physicians across diverse specialties, from primary care to surgery. CMSS works to catalyze improvement across specialties through convening, collaborating, and collective action. For more information, visit [www.cmss.org](http://www.cmss.org).

**Julia Peterson, CAE**

Operations Manager, CMSS  
[jpeterson@cmss.org](mailto:jpeterson@cmss.org)

**Liz O'Keefe**

Administrator, CMSS  
[eokeefe@cmss.org](mailto:eokeefe@cmss.org)