



**Office of  
HIPAA  
Electronic  
Standards**

Skyline 5, Suite  
810  
5111 Leesburg  
Pike  
Falls Church,  
VA  
22041-3206

Please send any  
comments and  
questions to

[hipaamail@tma.osd.mil](mailto:hipaamail@tma.osd.mil)

## **Military Health System Representatives Participate in Unique Health Plan ID Discussion at WEDI PAG Forum**

The National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS) hosted a hearing in July to receive comments and testimony from the industry concerning issues impacting a successful implementation of the Unique Health Plan ID (HPID). The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to adopt a standard for the unique HPID that is effective by October 1, 2012.

As a result of the July NCVHS hearing, the Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI) identified several issues that needed to be addressed more fully.

As a "designated advisor" to the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) under HIPAA, WEDI decided to set up a Policy Advisory Group (PAG) forum intended to bring stakeholders together to work towards a single consensus-based approach to the HPID. The PAG will be addressing important issues, proposing solutions and, once consensus is reached, will submit recommendations to NCVHS and HHS for their consideration.

Key discussions include: definition of criteria for entities eligible for and/or required to be enumerated under the HPID; identification of specific data content needed in the HPID database and which data needs to be available in a public registry; discussion of the compliance date outlined in legislation and identification of implementation recommendations.

The PAG, scheduled for September 20-21, will be led by members from the WEDI Board Executive Committee and the WEDI Board Chair. An agenda is posted on the WEDI [website](http://WEDI.Org) (WEDI.Org). Representatives from TRICARE Management Activity's Information Management Division will be participating in the event.