Support Interoperable Health Information Technology Infrastructure

ACP recommends that the federal government substantially increase funding to achieve an inter-operable health information technology (HIT) infrastructure including providing payment and other incentives to physicians to help offset the costs associated with such technologies.

Greater use of health information technology (HIT), use of electronic health records, and implementation of systems to enable electronic prescribing by physicians have the potential for improving the quality of patient care, reducing medical errors, increasing efficiency, reducing administrative costs, and achieving substantial cost savings. The patient-centered primary care model recommended by ACP entails coordination of patient care and the ability to smoothly transfer information (with appropriate safeguards of patient privacy) among a team of providers. Use of interoperable HIT systems in this model will help eliminate duplication of information and testing and promote care coordination

From ACP's Position Paper, *Achieving a High Performance Health Care System with Universal Access*.

ACP Policy vs. President-elect Obama's Proposal

ACP Pledge 3	President-elect Barack Obama
Increase public investment in health information technologies (HIT). Provide positive incentives to physicians to overcome the HIT cost barrier.	Invest $50 billion over five years toward the national adoption of standards-based electronic health information systems and phase in full implementation requirements. For more information visit the Obama website.