

The Office of the National Coordinator for
Health Information Technology



Consultation, Referral and Result Exchange through Direct Messaging

Department of Veterans Affairs and CareSpark

This demonstration illustrates the feasibility of utilizing the Direct Project constructs to enable secure messaging between a federal agency (Veterans Affairs), and a regional health information exchange network (CareSpark). This demonstration shows the secure, standards-based transmission of a referral for mammography from a VA medical center to a private sector provider clinic, and the reply from the private sector provider clinic with a text-based report. VA and CareSpark are using two Health Information Service Providers (HISPs) based on the Direct Project Reference Implementations (Java and C#) that are publicly available from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC).