

**Harmonization of Laboratory Test Results** –Laboratory professionals use a variety of test methods to obtain accurate and informative results to diagnose and treat patients. The use of different laboratory test methods may result in the reporting of different numeric values for the same test. Developing a process to ‘harmonize’ these differing laboratory numbers into a common value is critical to reducing medical errors, improving the quality of care and empowering patients to participate in decisions affecting their care. In addition, comparable patient laboratory results will provide added value to patient electronic health records, enabling more effective information sharing. The Committee urges the Department of Health and Human Services to partner with the private sector in ‘harmonizing’ clinical laboratory test results. Further, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, given its extensive experience in this area, should be an active participant in any public-private harmonization initiative.