The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act of 2009 authorized $2 billion in technical assistance and $22.5 billion in financial incentives for greater use of health information technology. In 2011, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) initiated a variety of HITECH programs to promote the adoption and “meaningful use” of electronic health records. Since 2009, physician and hospital adoption of EHRs has grown significantly due in part to HITECH; but challenges and opportunities remain for greater exchange of clinical information among organizations and with patients.

This presentation will discuss progress towards HITECH’s goals under the Electronic Health Record Incentive (Meaningful Use) Program, drivers of Meaningful Use among hospitals, and interim lessons learned from the HITECH evaluations. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of policy implications as the HITECH program enters its third year.