**Date**: January 8, 2019

**From:** Dr.Keith Campbell, VHA

**To: Dr. Jonathan Nebeker and Dr. Steve Brown**

**Cc: [tbc]**

**Subject:** How Solor can help the VHA operate as a High Reliability Organization

Jonathan and Steve,

I wanted to describe how our work with Solor resonates with our latest leadership messaging on patient safety by implementing principles of High Reliability Organizations. Please share this description as you feel is appropriate.

Dr. Stone’s November 28, 2018 article, “VHA's Journey to High Reliability: The Time is Now,” focuses on efforts to make the VHA a High Reliability Organization (HRO), with the goal of never harming patients in the delivery of health care. The Solor effort can be one of the process improvements that will enable high-reliability practices into the daily operations of our medical centers, resulting in greater patient safety and better quality of health care.

Dr. Stone’s message on the need for an **evolutionary** journey of the VHA towards HRO is a journey that we have also been undertaking with the Solor project. Solor does not foresee a “big bang” moment for health care interoperability. Instead, we will need to maintain their current systems while adapting to operational needs over many iterations given its complexity. Thus, to truly avoid errors in health data exchanges and to prevent patient harm, Solor defines an evolutionary approach that can be used by EHRM and the current Vista system as we incrementally improve semantic interoperability.

Solor can become a new standard for this evolution by providing a consistent foundation for anyone to easily create and share customized clinical content in a common model. Solor resolves the traditional challenges of mapping clinical terminology data which are labor-intensive and error-prone through its ability to create extensions that prevent the loss of information and preserve the meaning of customized clinical content. I strongly believe that Solor is a step in the right direction to improve patient safety and is a part of VHA’s journey towards HRO.

Currently the Solor team is building use cases with organizations like the FDA to address their challenges with semantic interoperability of health care data. As we continue to make progress on this project, I will be sure to keep you informed. If you would like to learn more about how Solor can lead to high reliability health care organizations, feel free to contact me or you could also take a look at a recent article on semantic interoperability and HROs at our website at [http://solor.io/how-solor-can-help-HCOs-become-HROs](http://solor.io/how-solor-helps-HCOs-become-HROs).

Sincerely yours,

Keith

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