

Secretary Mike Leavitt's 500-Day Plan

Longer, healthier and better lives

VISION	STRATEGIES
<p><i>In 5,000 days, the Secretary sees a nation in which ...</i></p>	<p><i>In the next 500 days the Secretary will concentrate on ...</i></p>
<p>Transform Health Care System</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nearly all health records can be linked through an interoperable system that protects privacy as it connects patients, providers and payers – resulting in fewer medical mistakes, less hassle, lower costs and better health. ▪ Consumers are better informed and have more choices. ▪ Wellness and prevention are sought as rigorously as treatment. ▪ New drugs and innovation are rapidly approved and continually monitored afterwards, and new information is proactively communicated to providers and patients. ▪ Payers reward providers for healthy outcomes rather than quantity of care and services. ▪ 12-14 million more Americans have health insurance. ▪ Inequalities in health care are eliminated. ▪ Common-sense medical liability reform makes health care more affordable and accessible for all Americans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expressing a clear vision of health information technology that conveys the benefits to patients, providers and payers. ▪ Convening a national collaboration to further develop, set and certify health information technology standards and outcomes for interoperability, privacy and data exchange. ▪ Realizing the near-term benefits of health information technology in the focused areas of adverse drug-incident reporting, e-prescribing, lab and claims-sharing data, clinic registrations and insurance forms. ▪ Creating a drug safety board to monitor and respond to post-market adverse drug incidents. ▪ Fulfilling the President's goals for community health center expansion. ▪ Enabling state insurance pools, association health plans and tax credits for those working, but unable to afford insurance. ▪ Supporting community-based approaches to close the health care gap, particularly among racial and ethnic minority populations, including American Indians and Alaska Natives. ▪ Pushing for medical liability reform.

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<p>Modernize Medicare and Medicaid</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medicare and Medicaid are modernized to provide high-quality health care in a financially sustainable way. ▪ The beneficiaries of Medicare and Medicaid are cost-conscious consumers with expanded choices of plans and treatments. ▪ At their option, seniors and people with disabilities can be cared for in their home or community. ▪ Medicaid is flexible and nimble enough to tailor benefits to need, helping millions more obtain insurance. ▪ Medicare and Medicaid are viewed as leaders in the collaborative development and use of health information technology, quality measurement and pay for performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementing the Medicare Modernization Act successfully by energizing broad participation, emphasizing preventive care, reaching out to those eligible for low-income subsidies and stimulating a competitive market. ▪ Modernizing Medicaid to ensure program dollars are used appropriately, make consumers more cost-conscious, tailor benefits to need, allow home and community care for the elderly and persons with disabilities, and stop inappropriate intergovernmental transfers. ▪ Creating workable methods of rewarding health providers for positive outcomes. ▪ Positioning HHS at the forefront of the health information technology interoperability movement.

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<p>Advance Medical Research</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medications are safer and more effective because they are chosen based on the patient's personal characteristics. ▪ Research results more quickly benefit people and healthcare needs more quickly become research leads. ▪ Broad scientific advances measurably reduce the burden of all chronic diseases. ▪ Breakthroughs protect Americans from a broad range of biological, chemical, radiological and nuclear threats. ▪ Comprehensive and novel early prevention and detection strategies increase healthy life potential such that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Cancer is more preventable and curable, ▫ Obesity and its consequences, such as diabetes and heart and vascular diseases, are greatly reduced, and ▫ Causes of mental, neurological and behavioral diseases are better understood and managed. ▪ Interdisciplinary and interagency collaboration in scientific pursuits is the standard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating an integrated electronic network of privacy-protected population data, genetic information and medical records to accelerate discoveries that will define an individual's risk of disease, response to treatment and likelihood of a side effect. • Building interdisciplinary research teams, which will combine skills and disciplines in the biological, physical and social sciences to yield biomedical insights that could not have been achieved by a single-discipline approach. • Improving the clinical research network to advance better prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of disease. • Implementing a comprehensive plan for obesity research that will maximize collaboration among HHS stakeholders.

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<p>Secure the Homeland</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State and local communities know how to help themselves and others in the event of a biological attack or flu pandemic. ▪ HHS and our partners can seamlessly and rapidly provide resources and public health personnel when needed anywhere in the United States. ▪ Surveillance of data in electronic health records provide early warnings of dangerous viruses or bio-terrorism activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparing for a potential H5N1 flu pandemic. ▪ Providing early warnings of naturally occurring and manmade threats through improved domestic and international surveillance. ▪ Developing a deployable mass casualty care capability to enhance medical surge capacity in response to a variety of threat scenarios. ▪ Aligning the force structure and deployment readiness of the Commissioned Corps with current needs. ▪ Improving the size and readiness of the Strategic National Stockpile and our ability to distribute it effectively. ▪ Enhancing emergency readiness of public health departments using risk-based investment.

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Protect Life, Family and Human Dignity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children are protected from abuse and neglect. ▪ Seniors and persons with disabilities are cared for with dignity and respect. ▪ Faith and community-based groups are given equal access to government grants. ▪ Self-reliance and work are rewarded. ▪ Protection of life and adherence to sexual abstinence outside of marriage are values supported by public policies and taught to future generations. ▪ Family interests are protected and marriages strengthened. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting self-sufficiency and state flexibility in the reauthorization of TANF. ▪ Increasing the commitment to faith and community-based grants, including Access to Recovery. ▪ Improving Head Start coordination with state and federal departments of education. ▪ Supporting the First Lady's initiatives on Helping America's Youth and Women's Health and Wellness. ▪ Supporting a culture of life and family in international policies.
Improve the Human Condition Around the World	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The United States is recognized as a leader among nations for caring and compassion. ▪ HIV/AIDS is reduced all around the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting emerging democracies with health diplomacy. ▪ Implementing on schedule the goals of the President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS relief and reauthorizing the Ryan White Care Act. ▪ Expanding our international network of early-warning infectious disease surveillance.

Note: Sec. Mike Leavitt uses a 500-Day Plan as a management tool to guide his energies in fulfilling the President's vision of a healthier and more hopeful America. The plan is a personal expression of many of Sec. Leavitt's priorities and provides direction to the daily leadership and management of the Department. The strategies in the Plan focus on actions during a rolling 500-day period that will achieve significant progress for the American people over a 5,000-day horizon. The plan is updated every 200 days. For more information visit www.hhs.gov/500DayPlan.