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Foreword

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Foreword

The Annals of Health Law Editorial Staff is proud to present our Winter 2017 Issue. Our Editorial Board seeks out articles that address leading issues in the health law community and reflect the expansive reach of the health law field. Continuing the Annals tradition of covering a wide range of current and intriguing issues within health law and policy, this issue explores cybersecurity of digital health information, cross-border exchanges of patient health data, and the public health threat of antibiotic resistance. These selected pieces further the recognition of Annals of Health Law as one of the country's distinguished health law and policy journals.

This issue begins with an article that addresses the need for consumer safety and data privacy in the digital health marketplace. The author, Charlotte A. Tschider, argues for utilizing already-existing United States Food and Drug Administration mechanisms to establish a regulatory framework that protects patient health information and provides clear direction for entities producing digital health products and services. Ms. Tschider engages both technology and law in her multi-disciplinary approach to the examination of healthcare cybersecurity.

Next, Oliver J. Kim examines the use and exchange of patient health data across national borders. In this article, Mr. Kim addresses the regulation of health information in the United States with a specific focus towards Canada, a country with a history of regulatory collaboration with the United States. Ultimately, Mr. Kim concludes that, existing challenges notwithstanding, regulatory harmonization across borders may open new opportunities for improved health outcomes for patients both domestically and internationally.

Our concluding article touches on an important public health concern—antibiotic resistance. The author, Donna Hanrahan, provides a comprehensive overview of the public health threat of antibiotic resistance. In this article, Ms. Hanrahan calls for statutory and regulatory actions to reduce antibiotics misuse and incentivize the development of new antibiotic drugs. Among her recommendations, Ms. Hanrahan urges Congress to pass the Promise for Antibiotics and Therapeutics for Health (PATH) Act. It is important to note that this article was written before the PATH Act was signed into law as part of the 21st Century Cures Act on December 13, 2016.

On behalf of the entire Annals of Health Law Editorial Staff, I would like to thank Charlotte A. Tschider, Oliver J. Kim, and Donna Hanrahan for their exceptional work and contribution to this publication. This issue of Annals is able to touch on groundbreaking matters in health law and policy as a result of the authors' excellent scholarship and passion. The Editorial Board and I would like to thank every member of the Annals team for their diligence and dedication throughout the editing process. I am personally grateful for my colleagues on the Executive Board: Amanda Bast, MaryKathryn Hurd, Erica Jewell, Alanna Kroeker, Kaitlin Lavin, and Brittany Tomkies, I would also like to thank our Senior Editors for their

outstanding work: Lindsey Croasdale, Laura Doyen, Melvin Gaddy, Marika Iszczyszyn, and Xavier Vergara. Finally, the Editorial Staff would like to thank the amazing individuals at the Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy for all of their support and guidance. The success of this issue would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of everyone involved.

Please enjoy the Winter 2017 Issue of Annals of Health Law.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Pangindian
Editor-in-Chief
Annals of Health Law