



## Center for Health Transformation E-Newsletters

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January 2005

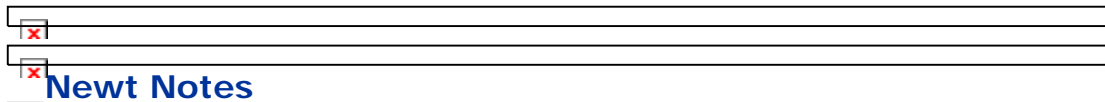
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### Newt Notes

***Winning the Future* rises to #6 on the January 30, 2005 New York Times nonfiction best-seller list.**

In my new book, [Winning the Future](#), I dedicate a full chapter to the importance of creating a 21st Century Intelligent Health System based on a new set of principles. The chapter is a primer for healthcare transformation synthesizing the three big changes the Center for Health Transformation and our members are determined to advance:

1. The application of new knowledge from the research lab to the doctor's office and to the individual;
2. The adoption of top quality

information technology systems to increase the ability to deliver high quality care at lower costs;

3. Centering the process of health on the informed consumer by empowering the individual with the knowledge, responsibility, and opportunity to make wise healthcare decisions resulting in the longest life with the best health at the lowest cost.

This book is not written primarily for inside-Washington policy experts. My primary audience is the average American. I want to inspire them to demand these changes from their government leaders. To that end, I have created a list of "Your 21st Century Health Rights and Responsibilities." An abbreviated version of that list is below. To read the full selection, visit: [YOUR 21ST CENTURY HEALTH RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES](#)

### **Your Rights**

1. You have the right not to die from a medical error or a medication error.
2. You have the right not to be given additional health conditions by the very institutions caring for you.
3. You have the right to own your own individual health record.
4. You have the right to be part of the lowest-cost insurance pool and you have a responsibility to buy insurance.
5. You have the right to know the quality and cost of your doctor, hospital, medical device, drug, or procedure

before you make a decision.

6. You have the right to know your treatment options, including complementary and alternative medicine options, before you make a decision about your course of treatment.
7. You have the right to expect your health provider to have state-of-the-art knowledge about best outcomes.

### **Your Responsibilities**

1. Your country should expect you to be engaged in maintaining your own health, looking at your individual health record, and taking responsibility for being aware of your health challenges.
2. Your country should expect you to pay something toward your healthcare.
3. Your country should expect you to make reasonable decisions about cost when you are relying on others to pay for your care.

We are finding a growing number of islands of excellence around the country, where health transformation is already occurring. From the implementation of electronic health systems in hospitals and small group practices to the growth of consumer-directed healthcare, forward thinking individuals, healthcare providers, businesses, and government leaders are making significant strides. Setbacks are unavoidable but momentum is growing and the solutions that the Center and our members have been championing are beginning to become reality for more and more Americans. I am cheerfully optimistic about the progress we can make together in the next few years to

turn transformation from a possibility into an inevitability.

## Transforming Examples

The Center for Health Transformation is constantly seeking solutions that improve quality and lower cost. You may find numerous case studies on our website by visiting our [Transforming Example Resource Center](#). We encourage you to submit your own transforming example via the website!

### New Members

Associate Member: [National Minority Health Month Foundation](#).

We would also like to recognize [National Association of Chain Drug Stores \(NACDS\) Foundation](#) and [Health Trio](#) who have recently renewed for another year.

*Please visit the [list of members](#) often to keep abreast of who is joining the Center or the "[Member News](#)" page to learn about the awards or honors won by our members.*

## Project Spotlight

### **CHT's 2005 Health Transformation Checklist for Government Leaders**

Thanks to significant input from our members, CHT has developed a list of actionable steps federal and state government leaders can take in 2005 to advance health transformation. The *2005 Health Transformation Checklist for Government Leaders* is not meant to be an exhaustive list of everything that could or should be done to advance transformation. Rather the list represents what the Center believes should be the immediate next steps that are required in key areas that will accelerate health transformation. The key

areas are:

- Patient Safety
- Health Information Technology
- Universal Coverage, Access, and Ownership
- Right to Know
- Prevention, Wellness, and Health Management
- Health Justice
- Health as an Economic Opportunity
- Capabilities verses Disabilities

The checklist in its current form is available on our website and is being distributed to federal and state government leaders directly and through supportive networks. Please share the checklist with your own government network. If you are interested in sponsoring a hard copy distribution in a specific state or region, please contact us at [info@healthtransformation.net](mailto:info@healthtransformation.net). The checklist is a constantly evolving document, and we will continue to update it this year and plan to release a new edition in 2006. We invite CHT members to provide input and suggest changes or additions.

To view the checklist, [Click here](#).

### **Minority Health Project**

The Minority Health Project is one of the Center's key projects in advancing health transformation. The overall goal of this project is to eliminate health disparities in the United States. As one of our key areas of focus moving forward, we are pleased to welcome a new partner and associate member to the Center, [The National Minority Health Month Foundation](#). Since its inception in 1999, the National Minority Health Month Foundation has distinguished itself as a leader in coalescing efforts to eliminate health status disparities. On February 8, 2005 the Foundation is joining with the Center for Health Transformation and former U.S. Representative Peter Deutsch to announce the launch of the Congressional Leadership Alliance to Eliminate Health Disparities. This Alliance will collaborate on the implementation of pilot programs in congressional districts where health status disparities persist. The National Minority Health Month Foundation maintains a comprehensive data platform that links vital statistics, demographic, prescription drugs, clinical laboratory values, health care delivery system access points and other data elements into

one centralized data warehouse. This data resource enables the Foundation to measure and forecast health status at the ZIP code level, evaluate the impact of specific interventions, and monitor changes in health care outcomes. The Center is also pleased to participate in the National Minority Health Foundation's annual [National Summit on Health Disparities](#), which will be held on April 26-27, 2005. This annual colloquium galvanizes understanding of and support for the implementation of integrated solutions to the problem of health disparities experienced by priority populations. *To read more about the [The National Minority Health Month Foundation](#) go to <http://www.nmhm.org>*

Please also visit [Our Take on the News](#) to learn more about recent news regarding health disparities.

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### **[CHT in the News](#)**

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**Center for Health Transformation Featured in LA Times.** *The LA Times highlights the work of the Center for Health Transformation calling it the "heart" of Newt Gingrich's work as "a respected entrepreneur of ideas."* [Read more.](#)

**NY Times Story Spotlights Center for Health Transformation.** *New York Times reporter Steve Lohr focuses on the Center for Health Transformation and Founder Newt Gingrich, calling him probably the most visible spokesman for a set of ideas about health care that is gaining support in the Bush administration and in business.* [Read more.](#)

**Newt Gingrich named 2005 HRO Superstar by Human Resources Outsourcing Today.** *CHT Founder, Newt Gingrich was named the "Most outstanding policy level advocate of consumer driven health care."* [Read more.](#)

**Nationally Syndicated Columnist Towery Praises Center for Health Transformation.** *In a column detailing Newt Gingrich's strengths as a national leader,*

*columnist Matt Towery highlights the ideas and accomplishments of the Center for Health Transformation. Read more.*

### **Upcoming Events**

**January 26th (Washington, DC)** *Speak to the American Clinical Laboratory Association*

**January 27th (Washington, DC)** *Speak to the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI)*

**February 7th (Raleigh, NC)** *CHT to participate in North Carolina Emerging Issues Forum*

**February 9th (New York)** *Newt Gingrich to speak to the New York Business Group on Health*

**February 17th (Washington, DC)** *Speak to the Atlanta Association of Health Underwriters*

**February 22nd (3 PM EST)** *CHT February Member Conference Call*

**March 9th (Washington, DC)** *Center for Health Transformation First Quarterly Member Meeting*

**March 14th (Washington, DC)** *Newt Gingrich to speak to The Society*

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