



Patient ID Now Coalition 2024 Year in Review

Established in June 2020, the Patient ID Now coalition completed its fourth full year in 2024. This year, the coalition made tremendous progress towards addressing patient misidentification through the bipartisan introduction of the Patient Matching and Transparency in Certified Health IT (MATCH IT) Act of 2024, led by Representatives Mike Kelly (R-PA) and Bill Foster (D-IL).

Throughout the year the coalition continued to grow, reaching a total of [56 coalition members](#). The coalition's influence within the healthcare sphere continued to grow as well, with mentions in articles from [Health Leaders](#) and [Business Wire](#). The coalition also launched the Patient ID Now [LinkedIn page](#) to help spread the word on patient identification even farther.

Legislatively, the [MATCH IT Act of 2024](#) was introduced in a bipartisan fashion in February 2024 and has since garnered 14 total cosponsors, 6 Republicans and 8 Democrats, inclusive of Representatives Mike Kelly and Bill Foster who sponsored the introduction. The legislation has also been endorsed by [31 organizations](#). The coalition also hosted an in-person congressional briefing, in conjunction with AHIMA and CHIME, titled "The MATCH IT Act: Making Patients Safer One MATCH at a Time."

The coalition continued to advocate for patient matching, including the repeal of Section 510 from the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations bills, in the federal budget. Although the final fiscal year 2024 (FY24) federal budget did still include Section 510, the coalition did make progress in federal funding. In FY24, the coalition joined Reps. Foster and Kelly in requesting that \$7 million of the funds appropriated to the Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy (ASTP) formerly known as the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), be used for patient identification and matching efforts. As a result, the FY24 budget, which was finalized on March 8, 2024, included the allocation of an additional \$3 million for ASTP/ONC to "work with industry to develop matching standards that prioritize interoperability, patient safety, and patient privacy."

As the process for the FY25 federal budget began, the coalition renewed its efforts. In May, the coalition sent letters to leaders of the Appropriations Committees in the [US House of Representatives](#) and [US Senate](#) signed by more than 150 organizations, asking for repeal of the ban. Working with our champions in the House, Reps. Mike Kelly and Bill Foster, the coalition worked to encourage Representatives to sign onto a Dear Colleague letter asking for a repeal of the ban. The bipartisan effort successfully garnered [13 Representatives](#) signing onto the letter. To support these efforts, the coalition met with numerous Congressional offices and submitted 180 written appropriations requests. While the final FY25 budget has not passed, the House version of the Labor-HHS bill again includes \$3 million in funding for ONC/ASTP to work on patient matching.

The coalition also held its third Patient ID Week in May of 2024. Through X (formerly known as Twitter) and LinkedIn, the coalition shared information on the MATCH IT Act, the administrative cost and burden patient misidentification, privacy and security, and patient care. The coalition also provided a social media toolkit to members so they could participate via social media as well. Patient ID Week saw nearly 1,000 actions including emails sent to the Hill on this issue and social media posts using #patientIDnow.



The coalition continues to advocate for the need to address patient identification in other legislation as well. In August, the coalition [responded to an RFI](#) regarding 21st Century Cures 2.0, urging the consideration of issues around patient identification and the inclusion of provisions within the MATCH IT Act in any new Cures legislation. The coalition will continue to explore other legislative avenues of bolstering patient identification and matching.

The coalition would like to thank all our members for your participation, engagement, and advocacy in 2024. Our achievements would not have been possible without the support of each and every one of you. We look forward to our continued partnership in 2025 as we continue to move the needle on patient identification and matching towards more complete, accurate, and accessible patient data.