Health Information Technology Oversight Council
Health IT Policy & Program Updates

June 2023

Issue highlights:

- **HITOC Strategic Plan Community Engagement**
- **Health Information Exchange Workgroup**
- **Oregon 2023 Legislative Session Updates**

HITOC Updates

HITOC Strategic Plan and Annual Priorities, Contact:
Hope.Peskin-Shepherd@oha.oregon.gov

HITOC is updating Oregon's Strategic Plan for Health IT. Areas HITOC will explore under the Strategic Plan Update include community information exchange (CIE), statewide health information exchange (HIE), patient access to data, electronic health record (EHR) adoption and implementation, health equity, and more. As part of this work HITOC chartered two workgroups, the CIE and HIE Workgroups. See below sections for additional information on this work.

Community Engagement

Community engagement for HITOC's Strategic Plan Update is a priority focus area for 2023. At their June meeting, HITOC will receive a report analyzing the last several years of existing community input. Also, three HITOC members have volunteered to help oversee the engagement process and ensure that key partner groups are meaningfully engaged. The community engagement plan centers health equity with the goal of engaging and supporting those using and impacted by health IT to identify challenges and offer solutions for health IT.

HITOC June Meeting

HITOC's next meeting is June 8 from 12:30-3:30. Members will discuss the HIE Workgroup's draft concept papers on the *Statewide Vision for HIE* and *Roles of Consumers and HIE*, as well as reviewing the concept area of connecting the entire care team. Members will also review a summary of community engagement from the last several years as part of the Strategic Plan Update work, and be kept informed on Oregon legislative session bills related to health IT.

Health Information Exchange (HIE) Workgroup, Contact:
Luke.A.Glowasky@oha.oregon.gov

HITOC chartered the HIE Workgroup in April 2022 to provide recommendations to HITOC and OHA on strategies to accelerate, support, and improve HIE across the state. Recommendations should reflect perspectives from all interested parties and partners, specifically including those serving communities that face health inequities. The HIE Workgroup recommendations will inform HITOC's Health IT Strategic Plan for Oregon and

What is HITOC?

The Oregon Legislature created the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) to ensure that health system transformation efforts are supported by health information technology. HITOC is a committee of the Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB), which sets policy and provides oversight for the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), including OHA's health system transformation efforts.

HITOC has six responsibilities:

1. Explore health IT policy
2. Plan Oregon's health IT strategy
3. Oversee OHA's health IT efforts
4. Assess Oregon's health IT landscape
5. Report on Oregon's health IT progress
6. Monitor federal health IT law and policy

HITOC brings partners across Oregon together for centralized policy work, strategic planning, oversight of health IT efforts, and landscape/policy assessment, so health IT efforts are more coordinated. HITOC also provides health IT expertise to OHPB and to Oregon lawmakers so they are informed about health IT in Oregon when they make policies and laws about health.

OHA's Office of Health IT & Analytics Infrastructure (OHITAI) staffs HITOC and the Oregon Health IT Program.

other OHA efforts. See the goals and full scope in the [HIE Workgroup Charter](#)*. For more information on HIE, see the* [HIE Overview](#) *and the OHA* [HIE Workgroup website](#)*.*

The HIE Workgroup has divided their work into five concept areas on which they are developing papers for HITOC's review. In their meetings, HITOC members review details of each concept area and provide feedback for additional topics they feel the Workgroup should address. The five concept areas are:

1. Statewide Vision for HIE: Health equity and approach to HIE in Oregon, including governance
2. Advancing Population Health Tools: Quality improvement and Value-based Care
3. Demonstrating Value with Social Determinants of Health (SDOH): Use cases for HIE, including some of the work of the 1115 Medicaid Waiver
4. Connecting the Entire Care Team: HIE adoption and gaps in adoption, as well as closed loop referrals as a strategy to help connect across the care team
5. Role of Consumers and Additional Considerations: Consumer needs and HIE will be addressed in addition to privacy, security, and data completeness

At their April 2023 meeting, the HIE Workgroup continued its discussion on topics to inform the *Advancing Population Health Tools: Quality Improvement and Value-based Care* concept paper. The group reviewed multiple frameworks for how the Workgroup could contribute to the concept paper and decided that focusing on goals and objectives in its discussions would be most beneficial. For state-held data assets, the Workgroup was able to identify some specific categories of information that would be desirable to pull directly from state agency systems to ensure consistency and reduce the time patients are asked private/personal questions that may put them at risk of re-traumatization. The group also began their initial discussion of the SDOH concept paper, including a brainstorming session on promising SDOH-related HIE use cases to be considered for the paper.

At their May 2023 meeting, the Workgroup walked through the content and recommendations included in drafts of the *Statewide Vision for HIE* and *Role of Consumers in HIE/Additional Considerations* concept papers. The group made some final suggestions, which will be incorporated into the papers, but was overall very supportive of the current status of both. Updated drafts of both concept papers are included for HITOC review in their June meeting materials. Workgroup staff then facilitated a panel discussion featuring population health subject matter experts with representatives from a CCO, a health plan with both Medicaid/Medicare and commercial lines of business, and a provider group. Information shared by the panel will be considered by the Workgroup in its continued discussion of the *Advancing Population Health Tools* concept paper at its June 16 meeting.

More details can be found in the meeting summaries posted on the HIE Workgroup website [here](#).

Community Information Exchange (CIE) Workgroup, Contact: Hope.Peskin-Shepherd@dhsoha.state.or.us

House Bill (HB) 4150 (2022) directed HITOC to convene one or more groups to explore strategies to accelerate, support, and improve secure, statewide community information exchange (CIE) and provide recommendations to the legislature in a draft and a final report. The HITOC-chartered [CIE Workgroup](#) *met monthly from March to November 2022 and has concluded meeting. The CIE Workgroup brought together individuals representing Oregon's diverse landscape of community, health care, and social services partners to provide recommendations on strategies to accelerate, support, and improve CIE across the state. Workgroup recommendations informed the HB 4150 legislative reports and will inform HITOC's Health IT Strategic Plan for Oregon and OHA efforts. For more information on CIE please see the* [OHA CIE Website](#)*.*

Submitted: House Bill 4150 (2022) CIE Legislative Report

The HB 4150 (2022) Final Report: Supporting Statewide Community Information Exchange was submitted to the legislature on January 31, 2023. The final report includes recommendations and considerations developed by the CIE Workgroup between March and November 2022, HITOC's comments on these recommendations, and input from 99 community-based organizations (CBOs) obtained through surveys and interviews. Priority recommendations and findings from the report include:

1. CIE requires sustainable investment in systems change, as well as building trust and relationships to achieve the intended value.
2. Support for CBOs is paramount, as they are a priority partner and must also be at the table in decision making.
3. CIE should promote equity and accessibility and be person-centered. Ensuring health equity across CIE efforts necessitates prioritizing culturally and linguistically specific organizations.
4. Inclusive and neutral statewide governance is needed and must be responsive to CBO and community needs.
5. Privacy and security of data must be prioritized, as must transparency and accountability about data.

Please see below for links to the final report and executive summary:

- [Executive Summary: House Bill 4150 Final Report](#)
- [House Bill 4150 Final Report: Supporting Statewide Community Information Exchange](#)

Oregon Health IT Program: Partnerships, Programs, and Initiatives

CCO Health IT (HIT) Roadmaps and Support, Contact: Marta.M.Makarushka@oha.oregon.gov

Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) are contractually required to maintain an OHA-approved HIT Roadmap. CCOs are required to submit an annual HIT Roadmap to OHA reporting the progress made from the previous year, as well as plans, activities, and milestones detailing how they will support contracted providers in future contract years. As of 2022, CCOs are also required to submit data files reporting on EHR and HIE adoption by contracted providers.

CCOs submitted *2023 HIT Roadmaps* and *HIT Data Reporting Files* to OHA by the March 15 deadline. These documents include 2022 progress and 2023-24 planned strategies to support EHR and HIE adoption, as well as health IT to support SDOH needs, including social needs screening and referrals. OHA is reviewing CCO submissions and will notify CCOs by June 16 whether Roadmaps were approved or if revisions are needed.

OHA has summarized the 2022 Roadmaps, which will be used to inform HITOC and OHA efforts. This [2022 CCO HIT Roadmap Summary](#) along with redacted 2022 HIT Roadmaps and reporting templates/guidance are posted on OHA's [CCO Health IT Advisory Group (HITAG) website](#). HITAG's next meeting is July 27 1 pm – 4 pm.

Health IT Landscape and Environmental Scan, Contact: Marta.M.Makarushka@oha.oregon.gov

OHA's Health IT team engages in ongoing environmental scan activities to inform health IT efforts and ensure strategies and programs address evolving needs. OHA's Health IT team continues compiling data across the agency and other sources to serve various purposes, such as informing HITOC's progress monitoring, program oversight, reporting priorities and strategic planning. Refer to [the 2022 HITOC Report on Oregon's Health IT Landscape](#) for more information.

HIT Commons, Contact: Luke.A.Glowasky@oha.oregon.gov

The HIT Commons is a public/private collaboration to coordinate investments in health IT, leverage funding opportunities, and advance HIE across the state. HIT Commons is co-sponsored by the Oregon Health Leadership

Council (OHLC) and OHA, and is jointly funded by OHA, hospitals, health plans and CCOs. For more information see the [HIT Commons website](#)*.*

EDIE and the Collective Platform (formerly known as PreManage)

The [Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE)](#) *allows emergency departments (EDs) in real-time to identify patients with complex care needs who frequently use the emergency room for their care.* [The Collective Platform](#) *(fka PreManage) is a companion software tool to EDIE. The Collective Platform brings the same real-time hospital event notifications (ED and Inpatient Admit, Discharge, and Transfer [ADT] data) to those outside of the hospital system, such as health plans, CCOs, providers, and care coordinators. OHA supports a Collective Platform subscription that includes use by CCOs, Oregon Department of Human Services programs, Tribal clinics, and other Medicaid care coordinators.*

- At its March 17, 2023 meeting, the HIT Commons [EDIE Steering Committee](#) voted to approve a recommendation to combine with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Integration Steering Committee. The newly combined group will be called "[HIT Commons Users Advisory Group](#)" and will convene together for the first time on June 25, 2023. Additional topics of discussion included updates from Collective Medical; updates on priority EDIE/Collective Use Cases in development; quarterly analytics & key metrics updates; and approval of updates to the committee charter. Materials from that meeting, including the current HIT Commons priority EDIE/Collective Use Case list are available [here](#).
- The EDIE Notification Advisory Committee (ENAC), tasked with reviewing, updating and managing EDIE ED notifications in Oregon, met on May 23, 2023. The Committee received updates on current work to refine and standardize the current ED notification trigger criteria based on PDMP records from HIT Commons and Collective Medical staff. System design changes are being implemented in EDIE to ensure notifications are only being triggered by PDMP data when it is essential for ED clinicians to be aware. ENAC also discussed options for improving ED utilization notification triggers (e.g., 5 ED visits in 12 months), and the discussion will be carried over to its next meeting in August 2023.

Oregon's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Integration Initiative

Oregon's PDMP Integration initiative connects EDIE, Reliance eHealth Collaborative HIE, EHRs, and pharmacy management systems to Oregon's PDMP. HIT Commons is overseeing the [PDMP Integration initiative](#) *with guidance from the Oregon PDMP Integration Steering Committee and in coordination with OHA's Public Health PDMP program. For more information see the* [HIT Commons website](#)*.*

- Use of the popular PDMP Integration initiative continues to grow with 20 new organizations going live in Q1 2023, bringing the total number of Oregon facilities accessing the PDMP registry via Integration to over 1,450, and the total number of active prescribers to over 21,100. Additional information including a list of participating organizations can be found in the [Q1 2023 PDMP Integration Implementation Report](#).
- The HIT Commons PDMP Integration Steering Committee met on April 14, 2023. Topics of discussion included updates on key metrics of the PDMP Integration initiative in Oregon from the PDMP vendor, Bamboo Health; proposed updates on what types of drugs in PDMP trigger EDIE ED notifications based on feedback from ENAC; and program updates from OHA Public Health Division PDMP staff. As mentioned above, the PDMP Steering Committee will be merging with the EDIE Steering Committee in 2023 to form the [HIT Commons Users Advisory Group](#), which will meet for the first time on June 25, 2023.

Federal and State Health IT Policy Updates

Federal Law and Policy Contact: Kristin.M.Bork@oha.oregon.gov & Shannon.Cengija2@oha.oregon.gov

See past Health IT Policy and Program Updates for news on federal health IT policy, updates to standards and guidance, including the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) efforts.

Comment Opportunity: Health Data, Technology, and Interoperability

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for public comment on proposals to implement certain provisions of the 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act) and make several enhancements to the ONC Health IT Certification Program (Certification Program) to advance interoperability, improve transparency, and support the access, exchange, and use of electronic health information.

Proposals include:

- Implementing the Electronic Health Record Reporting Program as a new Condition of Certification for developers of certified health information technology (health IT) under the Program.
- Modifying and expanding exceptions in the information blocking regulations to support information sharing.
- Revising several Certification Program certification criteria, including existing criteria for clinical decision support (CDS), patient demographics and observations, electronic case reporting, and application programming interfaces for patient and population services.
- Adopting the United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) Version 3 as a standard within the Certification Program and establishing an expiration date for USCDI Version 1 as an adopted standard within the Certification Program.
- Updating standards and implementation specifications adopted under the Certification Program to advance interoperability, support enhanced health IT functionality, and reduce burden and costs.

For more information, see the announcement and fact sheet, review the proposed rule and submit comments by June 20, 2023.

Comment Opportunity: HIPAA and Reproductive Health

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has issued a NPRM and guidance on the HIPAA Privacy Rule and the privacy of individuals' protected health Information (PHI) relating to abortion and other sexual and reproductive health care. OCR issued a NPRM to strengthen the HIPAA Privacy Rule protections by prohibiting the use or disclosure of PHI to identify, investigate, prosecute, or sue patients, providers and others involved in the provision of legal reproductive health care, including abortion.

For more information, see the announcement and fact sheet, review the proposed rule and submit comments by June 16, 2023.

ONC SDOH Information Exchange Toolkit and Learning Forum

The new Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Information Exchange Toolkit, released February 2023, is a practical, on-the-ground resource designed to aid the health IT community in the implementation of initiatives that recognize the importance of using SDOH information. ONC designed the SDOH Toolkit as a practical guide for conveners, facilitators, implementers, and others in the health IT community to consider SDOH information, where appropriate, in their collaborative assessment, design, implementation, and governance of health IT systems. The Toolkit can serve as a resource for initiatives that support the collection and use of SDOH information in communities across the United States, and includes considerations related to community engagement, health IT standards, infrastructure, interoperability, and governance.

ONC is also continuing to host the ONC SDOH Information Exchange Learning Forum with webinars between February and June 2023.

2022 Report to Congress: Update on the Access, Exchange and Use of Electronic Health Information is Now Available

[The new report](#) from ONC highlights progress made by the federal government and private sector to build a nationwide foundation for the access, exchange, and use of electronic health information. The report also identifies barriers to a nationwide foundation, and includes recommendations to improve the use of health IT.

Oregon Law and Policy, Contact: Luke.A.Glowasky@oha.oregon.gov

Oregon Legislation Impacting Health IT: 2023 Legislative Session

Oregon's 2023 legislative session began January 17, 2023. As of May 26, 2023, OHA's health IT staff is tracking multiple bills with health IT and/or HITOC impacts, including:

2023 proposed legislation that specifies CIE or similar technology

- [House Bill (HB) 3303 A](#): Establishes a CIE Board and specifies membership and duties. For information on hearings, work sessions, and the latest on scheduled events see information on how to engage [below](#).
- [Senate Bill (SB) 1074](#): Directs OHA to administer two-year demonstration project in two counties to test whether expanding scope of reimbursable services provided by community health workers (CHWs) can improve outcomes for families and children.
- [HB 2440](#): Did not have a work session scheduled in a house policy committee by the first posting deadline of 3/17, and therefore will not be moving forward this session.

2023 proposed legislation being tracked for Health IT-related Impacts

- [SB 2959 A](#): Establishes the Task Force on Health Care Services in Oregon Schools. Among other things, the Task Force will examine possible health record systems or solutions for schools, and OHA may be asked to assist with subject matter expertise in this area.
- [SB 1089 A](#): Establishes the Universal Health Plan Governance Board tasked with creating a plan for implementing a Universal Health Plan. The plan will need to identify IT infrastructure needed for overall Plan operations.
- [SB 619 A](#): Requires organizations to provide certain data rights to consumers, including rights to know how their data is processed, to correct or delete data, and to opt out. Organizations must also place higher protections on "sensitive data" such as biometric data or for children's data. This proposal grew out of Oregon's Consumer Privacy Task Force.
- [HB 3258 B](#): Makes various amendments to laws governing Oregon's PDMP program, including but not limited to: requiring the PDMP program to contract to ensure the operation of any technology integrations between the PDMP system and health IT systems used by authorized practitioners and pharmacists, and requiring disclosure of minimal PDMP data to authorized Oregon Medicaid leadership and program staff, and CMS, to ensure the PDMP system meets CMS Medicaid Enterprise Systems certification requirements.
- [HB 2642](#): Did not have a work session scheduled by the legislative deadline, and therefore will not be moving forward this session. The bill would have required practitioners to query Oregon's PDMP before prescribing Schedule II-IV controlled substances.
- [HB 3040](#): Did not have a work session scheduled by the legislative deadline, and therefore will not be moving forward this session. The bill would have required CCOs to share claims and encounter data with contracted community providers or their EHR vendors for their covered patients.

How to engage in legislative session:

- The best way to follow bills, hearings, testimony, and work sessions is to e-subscribe to each bill on the [Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS)](#). This helps ensure you can get notified if hearings are scheduled or other action is occurring on a bill.

- Information on how testify at future public hearings (in person or remotely) can be found here and to provide written testimony here.

Oregon 2022-2027 Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver, Contact: 1115Waiver.Renewal@dhsoha.state.or.us

On September 28, Oregon received federal approval to pilot first-in-the-nation changes to the state's Medicaid program over the next five years. Under the agreement, Oregon will receive $1.1 billion in new federal funds to address inadequate food, housing and other root-cause issues that lead to poor health for people and families struggling to make ends meet. The agreement between Oregon and the federal agency Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) renews Oregon's current section 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver for the next five years (covering 2022 – 2027) and provides federal sign-off and funding to implement the new changes.

Health IT plays a critical role in supporting approved changes in the waiver related to stabilizing transitions for Oregon Health Plan members, including supporting members transitioning from corrections, psychiatric, and foster care settings. Health IT tools can also play an important role in supporting information sharing between health care and social services to capture health related social needs, referrals, and services.

For more information, see the Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application webpage.

Stay Connected

You can find information about HITOC at our website. Meetings are open to the public and public comments are accepted at the end of each meeting or in writing to the HITOC Chair and Vice-Chair in care of OHA (HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov).

Refer to past Health IT Policy and Program Updates to review previous health IT resources, historical state and federal updates, and more.

Program Contact

Health Information Technology Oversight Council: HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov

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