

Health IT Policy

HITOC Updates

House Bill 4150 (2022) Legislative Report, Contact:
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House Bill (HB) 4150 directs 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.

In their December 8 meeting, HITOC is reviewing materials from the CIE Workgroup in preparation for the HB 4150 (2022) final report due to the legislature on January 31, 2023. These materials include additional recommendations and considerations building on the CIE Workgroup's preliminary recommendations.

The draft report, submitted on September 9, 2022, brings together the preliminary recommendations developed by the CIE Workgroup between April and July 2022, HITOC's comments on the recommendations, and findings from surveys and interviews with community-based organizations (CBOs). Please see below for links to the Draft Report and the executive summary:

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

For additional details on the report see the Community Information Exchange (CIE) section below.

HITOC Strategic Plan and Annual Priorities, Contact:
Ashley.Ashworth@dhsaha.state.or.us

Strategic Plan Update: 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, public health, and more. As part of this work HITOC chartered two workgroups, the HIE and CIE Workgroups. See below sections for additional information on their work.

HITOC December Meeting

HITOC's next meeting is [December 8](#) from 12:30-3:30 and will focus on finalizing the report to the legislature as required by HB 4150. For additional details on the report see the Community Information Exchange (CIE) section below. Members will also receive an update from the HIE Workgroup on their vision and proposed list of concept papers.

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 \(OHIT\)](#) staffs HITOC and the Oregon Health IT Program.

HITOC November Ad Hoc Meeting

HITOC met for a short ad hoc meeting on [November 8](#) to discuss the work of the HIE Workgroup thus far. HITOC reviewed the Workgroup's draft vision and provided feedback on the areas of focus, including closed loop referrals; value based payment; 1115 Medicaid Waiver use cases including incarcerated populations, individuals experiencing housing insecurity and transition populations; and HIE gaps, which includes behavioral and oral health among others.

Community Information Exchange (CIE) Workgroup, Contact: Hope.Peskin-Shepherd@dhs.oregon.gov

The HITOC-chartered [CIE Workgroup](#) began meeting monthly in March 2022 and concluded in November 2022. The CIE Workgroup brings 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. The CIE Workgroup's vision is that all people living in Oregon and their communities have access to community information exchange that creates seamless trusted, person-centered connections and coordination to meet people's needs, support community capacity, and eliminate siloes to achieve health equity. Workgroup recommendations will inform the HB 4150 legislative reports, HITOC's Health IT Strategic Plan for Oregon and OHA efforts. See the goals and full scope in the [CIE Workgroup Charter](#). For more information on CIE please see the [OHA CIE Website](#).

The CIE Workgroup developed Preliminary Recommendations in four areas between April and July 2022 to inform the [HB 4150 Draft Report](#) submitted to the legislature on September 9 (see above for more information). Leading up to the final report to the legislature, due January 31, 2023, the CIE Workgroup has focused on additional strategies, considerations, and next steps to accelerate, support, and improve statewide CIE in Oregon. The Preliminary Recommendations (that were incorporated into the HB4150 Draft Report) include:

- [Preliminary Recommendations: Support for Community-based Organizations \(CBOs\) to Participate in CIE](#)
- [Preliminary Recommendations: Support for Additional Partners to Participate in CIE](#)
- [Preliminary Recommendations: OHA and Oregon Department of Human Services \(ODHS\) Roles in CIE](#)
- [Preliminary Recommendations: Statewide CIE Data Program](#)

At the October 18 CIE Workgroup meeting, members finalized their [Considerations for Privacy and Security of Statewide CIE](#), which synthesized members' responses to a pre-meeting survey as well as discussions from the September meeting. Members also heard presentations on different models of CIE governance and discussed statewide governance of CIE in Oregon.

The CIE Workgroup held their final meeting November 15, 2022. The Workgroup finalized their [Recommendations for Governance of Statewide CIE](#), which brought together their October discussion and prior recommendations the Workgroup had made on governance. Workgroup members also participated in a discussion about data equity frameworks after viewing a presentation on example frameworks used by other organizations. Their responses will inform a brief addendum to their Statewide CIE Data Program recommendations.

Health Information Exchange (HIE) Workgroup, Contact: Luke.A.Glowasky@dhs.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 HIT Strategic Plan for Oregon and 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](#).

HIE Workgroup staff and its HITOC liaison presented to HITOC at its ad hoc November meeting, which focused on the work of the Workgroup to date. HITOC reviewed and provided feedback on the proposed vision statement for HIE in Oregon, primary HIE objectives and short-term strategic focus areas for the statewide HIT Strategic Plan, and concept areas that the Workgroup will explore and eventually develop into concept papers for HITOC.

At its November 18 meeting, the HIE Workgroup worked on finalizing the vision statement for HIE, primary objectives, short-term focus areas, and potential concept areas for future work, considering the feedback from HITOC. Rim Cothren, an HIE subject matter expert, presented to the group on national HIE networks and the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA), focusing on their potential role in supporting the Workgroup's vision for HIE and primary HIE objectives for the Strategic Plan. The Workgroup also began its deeper dive into the concept area around filling gaps in health information sharing, specifically around behavioral and oral/dental health providers. The next HIE WG meeting will be on December 16, 2022 – meeting information will be posted on the [OHA HIE Workgroup website](#).

Health IT Landscape and Environmental Scan, Contact: Marta.M.Makarushka@dhsosha.state.or.us

OHIT engages in ongoing environmental scan activities to inform health IT efforts and ensure strategies and programs address evolving needs. OHIT 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.

2022 Health IT Report to HITOC: OHIT revised the *2019 Health IT Report to HITOC* to include 2021-collected data and Key Concept updates. [2022 Health IT Report](#) highlights were presented at the [June HITOC meeting](#). The 2022 report includes an appendix summarizing results of a 2021 health IT survey conducted in partnership with the CCOs, including EHR and HIE information from CCO-contracted physical, behavioral, and oral health organizations. A more detailed review of the report was presented at the [Health IT Landscape HITOC education session](#) on September 22.

CCO Health IT Roadmaps and Support, Contact: Marta.M.Makarushka@dhsosha.state.or.us

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

CCOs submitted *2022 Health IT Roadmaps* and data files to OHA at the end of April. These documents include 2021 progress and 2022-24 planned strategies to support EHR and HIE adoption, as well as HIT to support social needs screening and referrals for addressing SDOH needs. OHA completed its review and notified CCOs in July whether Roadmaps were approved or if any revisions were needed. All revised 2022 HIT Roadmaps have been reviewed and approved; redacted Roadmaps will be posted on OHA's [CCO Health IT Advisory Group \(HITAG\) website](#) by the end of November (see HITAG website for reporting guidance, 2021 Roadmaps). OHA is in the process of summarizing 2022 HIT Roadmaps, which will be used to inform HITOC and OHA efforts. HITAG's next meeting is November 28th 1-3 pm and will focus on a summary of CCO efforts to support EHR adoption and the 2023 HIT Roadmap guidance and template.

Oregon Health IT Program: Partnerships, Programs and Initiatives

HIT Commons, Contact: Luke.A.Glowasky@dhsosha.state.or.us

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.

- HIT Commons hosted a Whole Person Care Collaborative on November 4, 2022. The Collaborative focused on innovative technical strategies and tools that promote the health and social needs of individuals and families. Trilby de Jung, Deputy Director of Health Policy & Analytics at OHA, presented on how the recently approved 1115 Medicaid Waiver is striving to better address whole person care for Oregon's most vulnerable populations. Panel topics included care coordination for incarcerated populations, behavioral health, and the insecurely housed. The presentation slides and recording can be found [here](#).
- The HIT Commons [EDIE Steering Committee](#) met on October 28, 2022. Topics of discussion included review of quarterly EDIE analytics dashboards; updates on EDIE key metrics for 2021-2023 and HIT Commons priority EDIE/Collective Use Cases in development; review and feedback gathering on proposed EDIE priorities for 2023; results from a survey of ED providers and staff on the utility of various types of data in EDIE ED notifications; and an overview of a new HIT Commons Behavioral Health Collective Onboarding Toolkit. Materials from that meeting, including the current HIT Commons priority EDIE/Collective Use Case list are available [here](#). The Committee's next meeting is December 9, 2022.

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 25 new organizations going live in Q3 2022, bringing the total number of Oregon facilities accessing the PDMP registry via Integration to over 1,375, and the total number of active prescribers to over 20,200. Additional information including a list of participating organizations can be found in the [Q3 2022 PDMP Integration Implementation Report](#).
- The HIT Commons PDMP Integration Steering Committee met on October 14, 2022. Topics of discussion including updates on key metrics of PDMP Integration in Oregon from the PDMP vendor, Bamboo Health (formerly known as Appriss), showing increasing rates of usage compared to the PDMP web portal; proposed updates on what types of controlled substances in PDMP trigger EDIE ED notifications based on feedback from the EDIE Notification Advisory Committee (ENAC) and the OHLC Substance Use

Disorder Workgroup; and program updates from OHA Public Health Division PDMP staff. The Committee's next meeting is April 13, 2023.

Policy Resources

Federal Law and Policy Contact: Ashley.Ashworth@dhsoha.state.or.us

See past [HIT 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: Proposed Federal Rule changes re: Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) is seeking public comment on proposed rule changes to Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records regulations.

- The regulations at 42 CFR part 2 ("Part 2") protect the confidentiality of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment records. Confidentiality protections help address concerns that discrimination and fear of prosecution deter people from entering treatment for substance use disorder.
- These changes are in response to requirements under the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which requires HHS to align aspects of Part 2 with HIPAA rules and the HITECH Act. The CARES Act also requires HHS to update HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices requirements to address Part 2 protections and individual rights.
- Specifically, the proposed rule increases coordination among providers in treatment for substance use challenges and increases protections for patients concerning records disclosure to avoid discrimination in treatment.

HHS encourages all stakeholders, including patients and their families, health plans, health care providers, health care professional associations, consumer advocates, and government entities, to submit comments. For more information, see the [announcement](#) and [fact sheet](#), review the [proposed rule](#) and [submit comments](#) by January 31, 2023.

Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) Recommendations on ONC Standards

HITAC recently submitted their final report and recommendations related to ONC adopted standards and implementation specifications referenced in federal regulations. The report and recommendations are based on the work of the HITAC's 2022 Adopted Standards Task Force and are responsive to a 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act) provision that requires the national coordinator to convene stakeholders to review the existing set of adopted standards and implementation specifications and make recommendations with respect to whether to maintain the use of such standards and implementation specifications; or to phase out such standards and implementation specifications.

The Committee recommended ONC maintain 14 standards, maintain or phase out with replacement 4 standards, phase out with replacement 37 standards, and they did not recommend any standards be phased out completely.

HITAC's full report is available [here](#).

Oregon Law and Policy

Oregon Legislation impacting Health IT

Oregon's 2023 legislative session will begin January 17, 2023. Past legislation impacting health IT includes:

- [House Bill 4150 \(2022\)](#), Requires HITOC to report to the legislature on strategies to accelerate, support and improve statewide CIEs, (see first item in this document for the draft report and other updates).

Contact: Hope.Peskin-Shepherd@dhsosha.state.or.us

- [House Bill 4212 \(2020\)](#), REALD Provider Reporting: Oregon’s House Bill 4212 (2020) requires health care providers to collect race, ethnicity, language, and disability (REALD) data for all COVID-19 encounters. After collection, providers must report this data to OHA with COVID-19 disease reporting. For more information, see the [REALD for Providers webpage](#).
- [House Bill 3159 \(2021\)](#), Requires OHA to adopt rules and standards and establish a timeline for health care providers and health insurers to collect and report REALD and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). More information about the implementation of HB 3159 can be found [here](#).

Oregon 2022-2027 Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver, Contact: 1115Waiver.Renewal@dhsosha.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@odhsosha.oregon.gov).

Program Contact

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

Get involved with Oregon Health IT

Office of Health Information Technology: HealthIT.Oregon.gov | Join the listserv: bit.ly/2VYgoDB