# Office of Health Information Technology

The Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) serves as a partner and resource for both state programs and other public and private users of HIT. OHIT provides effective HIT policies, programs and partnerships that support improved health for all Oregonians.

## Community Information Exchange (CIE) and COVID-19

Oregon community information exchanges (CIEs) are developing across the state, sponsored by Medicaid coordinated care organizations (CCOs), health plans and other organizations. CIE can be used by interested community-based organizations (CBOs), local public health authorities (LPHAs), and Tribes to coordinate wraparound and social services support for COVID-19 isolation and quarantine. Joining a CIE is voluntary and not required under the COVID-19 Grants for Community Based Organizations.

In coordination with internal and external partners, OHA has developed an informational flyer that provides further detail about CIE for COVID supports. We also plan to hold an informational webinar where community stakeholders interested in CIE can learn more, and to gather feedback in the future. We'll share more information about these events in upcoming newsletters and on our OHA CIE website.

*About CIE*
CIE is a network of healthcare and human/social service partners using a technology platform with functions such as a shared resource directory, "closed loop" referrals, reporting, social needs screening, and other features to electronically connect people to social services and supports.

Learn more about CIE in Oregon >

## HITOC Highlights
## December HITOC Meeting Canceled

As part of OHA's commitment to limiting burden on stakeholders whenever possible due to the COVID-19 crisis, the December 3, 2020, meeting of the Health IT Oversight Council (HITOC) has been canceled. HITOC tentatively plans to meet February 4, 2021, to discuss race, ethnicity, language, and disability (REALD) data collection requirements, telehealth, and member recruitment.

# November 2020

## REALD Data Collection for COVID encounters

### REALD Learning Series

In last month's enewsletter, we discussed House Bill 4212 (2020)'s impact on REALD collection and reporting for COVID-19 encounters. Since then, the last of our currently scheduled REALD learning sessions took place. Webinars included *Strategies for Asking REALD questions, Implementing New REALD Data Collection for Providers, and Using REALD Data to Advance Health Equity*, and several more. You can review slides and watch meeting recordings here. The Office of Equity and Inclusion is currently in the planning phase of additional learning sessions, which may cover topics like disability as a demographic and patient experience with REALD data.

### Phase 2 technical advisory groups

OHA has been hosting a Phase 1 Technical workgroup for hospitals, health systems and federally-qualified health centers. In the coming weeks, we'll begin planning for a Phase 2 Technical Workgroup. Groups affected by Phase 2 of the REALD data collection requirement include health care facilities and health care providers working in or with individuals in a congregate setting. These providers will be required to begin collecting and reporting REALD data on March 1, 2021.

If you're interested in taking part, please email HB4212 Implementation Lead, Belle Shepherd at Belle.Shepherd@dhsoha.state.or.us.

You can learn more about REALD in Oregon on OHA's Office of Equity and Inclusion's website.

## Behavioral Health Learning Collaboratives

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was proud to sponsor two virtual Behavioral Health Learning Collaboratives in September. The events provided behavioral health organizations with technical assistance around the adoption or upgrade of electronic health record (EHR) systems and the adoption and use of health information exchange (HIE) tools.

The collaboratives brought a variety of subject matter experts and behavioral health stakeholders together to discuss topics related to behavioral health and health IT. Funding for these events was provided through a SAMHSA Block Grant, and content was developed through the recommendations of the Health Information Technology Oversight Council Behavioral Health HIT Workgroup.

You can learn more, review meeting materials, and watch meeting recordings on our Behavioral Health HIT Workgroup webpage.

**Oregon Health Authority**

## Federal Interoperability Final Rules Webinar for CCO/Payers

OHA's Office of Health IT was pleased to host a Federal Interoperability Final Rules Webinar on November 5, 2020. The webinar was specifically tailored to CCOs/payers (including Medicare Advantage plans).

National health IT subject matter expert, Rim Cothren, presented on the CMS Interoperability and Patient Access final rule payer requirements. In addition, representatives from the Oregon Health Authority who cover Medicaid coordinated care organizations (CCOs), dental care organizations (DCOs), and fee-for-service were on hand to provide information and answer questions. **You can listen to the recording here.**

The ONC and CMS final rules implement interoperability and patient access provisions of the 21st Century Cures Act, requiring the implementation of new policies that will give patients unprecedented safe, secure access to their health data.

You can learn more about the Federal Interoperability Final Rules on our webpage, where new information is added regularly. If you have questions the Federal Interoperability Final Rules, please reach out to Marta Makarushka at Marta.M.Makarushka@dhsoha.state.or.us.

## Contact us

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