Oregon Health Authority
OFFICE OF HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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HITOC UPDATE: HEALTH IT POLICY & STRATEGY

VISION:

HIT-optimized health care: A transformed health system where HIT/HIE efforts ensure that the care Oregonians receive is optimized by HIT.

THREE GOALS OF HIT-OPTIMIZED HEALTH CARE:

- Providers have access to meaningful, timely, relevant and actionable patient information to coordinate and deliver "whole person" care.
- Systems (health systems, providers, CCOs, health plans) effectively and efficiently collect and use aggregated clinical data for quality improvement, population management and incentivizing health and prevention. In turn, policymakers use aggregated data and metrics to provide transparency into the health and quality of care in the state, and to inform policy development.
- Individuals and their families access their clinical information and use it as a tool to improve their health and engage with their providers.

HOUSE BILL 2294 ESTABLISHING OREGON HEALTH IT PROGRAM, REFINING HITOC'S ROLE INTRODUCED BY HOUSE HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

In December 2014, the Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) presented Legislative Concept 482 (LC482) to the Oregon Health Policy Board. The concept establishes the Oregon Health Information Technology Program within the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and makes significant changes to HITOC's structure. The concept had previously been discussed by HITOC during its October 2014 meeting and HITOC's edits were later added to the concept. The Oregon Health Policy Board formally voted to support LC482 at the Board's January 2015 meeting.

Shortly after the board's approval, the House Health Care Committee introduced House Bill 2294 (HB2294) which encompasses the entirety of LC482. OHIT is working with Representative Mitch Greenlick and the House Health Care Committee to educate stakeholders and legislators about the importance of HB2294 and its impact on the state's health IT strategy.

The bill's key components include the Oregon Health IT Program, which would allow OHA to expand voluntary health IT services to the private sector and charge fees for the use of these services. In addition, HB2294 would provide OHA greater flexibility in working with stakeholders and partners toward statewide health IT services (e.g. the Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE) Utility, see next page).

HB2294 would also make the Oregon Health Policy Board responsible for appointing HITOC members (currently the Governor's Office appoints both Oregon Health Policy Board and HITOC members). The Board would determine member terms, meeting frequency, and would work with HITOC on defining priorities for their work. HITOC would report to the Board on the progress of the state in adopting health IT and health information exchange, the progress of the Oregon Health IT Program, and changes to relevant federal policy that could impact health IT in Oregon.

The bill will next be brought to the House for a floor vote with a recommendation to pass by the House Health Care Committee. HB2294 has received strong support from stakeholders across the state.

UPDATES IN BRIEF:

Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Grace Period

Oregon's Medicaid EHR Incentive program received CMS approval to extend the regular length of time for providers to attest in consideration of the 2014 Certified EHR Technology (CEHRT) Flexibility Rule. For program year 2014 only, eligible hospitals had until January 31, 2015 and eligible professionals have until May 31, 2015 to submit an attestation.

HIT/HIE Community & Organizational Panel (HCOP)

The HCOP is being chartered by HITOC to facilitate communication and learning among coordinated care organizations (CCOs), HIEs, and other health care organizations along with OHA around the implementation of health IT and health information exchange projects across the state. The goal is to learn about barriers, opportunities, and best practices around such projects—particularly those that involve multiple stakeholders. This information will help inform HITOC in its own strategic and policy efforts to promote health IT and health information exchange broadly in Oregon.

The first meeting of the HCOP is planned for the first half of 2015. Invitations and call for nominations to participate will be distributed soon.

Updated CCO Profiles

Last month, OHIT provided each CCO an updated HIT/HIE Profile, compiling the information OHA has gathered on the CCO's HIT/HIE environment, including existing IT efforts, initiatives, future plans and strategy. The profile template was developed with feedback from the CCO Health IT Advisory Group (HITAG), HITOC and others. Final CCO profiles will be summarized and released in summer 2015.

EDIE Utility Approved by Health Policy Board

In December, OHA requested that the Oregon Health Policy Board approve the Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE) Utility as a community-centered health initiative to ensure that OHA can act as a sponsor of the Utility, in partnership with the Oregon Health Leadership Council (OHLC). The Board formally approved OHA's request during its January 2015 meeting.

With this approval, OHA will move forward as an official sponsor of the EDIE Utility. As a sponsor, OHA will co-sign agreements with each of the 16 coordinated care organizations (CCO) , signifying their participation in the three-year demonstration period of the EDIE Utility.

Additionally, OHA will work closely with OHLC to support the EDIE Utility and ensure progress toward the state's goal of enabling statewide hospital notifications.

ABOUT HITOC

The Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) is a statutory body of Governor appointed, Senate confirmed citizens, tasked with setting goals and developing a strategic health information technology plan for the state, as well as monitoring progress in achieving those goals and providing oversight for the implementation of the plan.

Formed in 2009, the HITOC builds on the past work of the Health Information Infrastructure Advisory Committee and the Health Information Security & Privacy Collaborative.

HITOC is supported by the Office of Health Information Technology at the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

ONC ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR EARLY FEBRUARY IN WASHINGTON DC

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) hosted its 2015 annual meeting on February 2-3 in Washington D.C. at the Washington Hilton Hotel. Listen to the webcast here.

Entitled: "Interoperable Health IT for a Healthy Nation" the meeting focused largely on the upcoming Federal Health IT Strategic Plan (see side bar). In addition, the agenda included:

- Former Senate Majority Leaders Bill Frist, M.D., and Tom Daschle who discussed the importance of health IT from a policy perspective;
- Four former National Coordinators: David Brailer, M.D., Ph.D., Robert Kolodner, M.D., David Blumenthal, M.D., and Farzad Mostashari, M.D., composed a unique panel to discuss the state of health IT in the U.S., past, present, and future;
- Angela Kennedy, a mother caring for a daughter with cystic fibrosis, discussed her real-life experience as a user of health IT;
- Breakout sessions addressing consistent, timely, and appropriate access to accurate and reliable health information.

OHA presented on state policy levers for health IT and had several staff members in attendance. OHIT will report back to HITOC on significant developments during its March 2015 meeting.

CROSSWALK OF EFFORTS SUPPORTING HIT-OPTIMIZED HEALTH CARE GOALS IN OREGON

	GOAL 1: SHARING PATIENT INFORMATION ACROSS CARE TEAM	GOAL 2: USING AGGREGATED DATA FOR SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT	GOAL 3: PATIENT ACCESS TO THEIR OWN HEALTH INFORMATION
EHR Incentive Program	X	X	X
Hospital Notifications	X	X	
Provider Directory	X	X	
CareAccord	X	X	
Technical Assistance	X	X	X
Clinical Quality Metrics Registry		X	

ONC FEDERAL HEALTH IT STRATEGIC PLAN: OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

ONC recently closed the public comment period on their draft version of the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan 2015-2020. OHA was among those that provided comments.

The Strategic Plan describes five goals for health IT, focused around the collection, sharing, and use of health information:

Goal 1: Expand adoption of health IT;
Goal 2: Advance secure and interoperable health information;
Goal 3: Strengthen health care delivery;
Goal 4: Advance the health and well-being of individuals and communities;
Goal 5: Advance research, scientific knowledge, and innovation.

ONC's Interoperability Roadmap

ONC is also accepting public comments on its Shared Nationwide Interoperability Roadmap, to be released in 2015, which will define how the federal government and the private sector will approach health information sharing. Public comments are due by April 3, 2015. ONC is also set to release an Interoperability Standards Advisory later this year with public comments due by May 1, 2015.

We will discuss these plans as a featured topic at the March 2015 HITOC meeting.