

HITOC Update: HIT/HIE Policy and Strategy

July 2014

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, 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.

CCO “Deeper Dive” Meetings

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) staff are meeting with each coordinated care organization (CCO) over the next several months to dive deeper into each CCO’s HIT/HIE efforts and ensure that our state-level Phase 1.5 initiatives align with and support CCO needs. We have obtained helpful feedback thus far from the first two Deeper Dive meetings and look forward to using the acquired information for a broader environmental scan regarding the status of HIT/HIE across the state. Some of this information gathering will inform HITOC as we move forward in assessing Oregon’s progress toward our goals for an HIT-Optimized health care system.

HIT/HIE Community and Organizational Panel (HCOP)

Later in 2014, OHA will be convening a panel of stakeholders under HITOC who are participating in or developing HIT/HIE, including local Health Information Exchanges, CCOs, health systems and others. The purpose of the HIT/HIE Community and Organizational Panel (HCOP) will be to align efforts, identify barriers, share best practices, and identify areas where OHA can provide support. The quarterly meetings will provide a venue in which to raise and explore some of the complex issues experienced by the HIT/HIE community in Oregon. We are informing each CCO of the HCOP during the Deeper Dive meetings and inviting them to participate. We have already received enthusiastic support for the panel, as many community HIT/HIE efforts face similar issues and would value sharing lessons learned, input and support. We will present a draft charter for review at the September HITOC meeting, and expect the first HCOP meeting to occur before the end of 2014.

ONC’s 10-Year Interoperability Vision

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) recently released a [concept paper](#) laying out a 10-year vision for an interoperable health IT ecosystem, which is divided into three-year, six-year, and 10-year plans.

Health System Transformation 2013 Performance Report

The Oregon Health Authority released a milestone [Health System Transformation report](#) that includes a year’s worth of data on coordinated care organizations’ (CCOs) performance. The coordinated care delivery model has so far led to reductions in emergency department visits (17% reduction since 2011 baseline data), increased health screenings for children (58% increase since 2011), and increased access to primary care. The report results are tied to quality pool payments from the state—this is the first time CCOs will receive these payments for meeting key quality metrics.

Click [here](#) to read the report.

The ONC is engaging a variety of stakeholders, including states, to develop this vision further. Oregon is excited to participate and we will provide updates as we have them.

The three-year agenda focuses on sending, receiving, finding and using health information to improve health care quality. The six-year agenda focuses on using health information to improve health care quality and lowering costs. The 10-year agenda is to create a learning health system in which data is leveraged prospectively and retrospectively to ensure quality, improved public health and efficiency. To achieve this vision, ONC will work with the federal government, states and the private sector to develop a shared agenda that focuses on five critical building blocks for a nationwide interoperable health information infrastructure:

1. Core technical standards and functions
2. Certification to support adoption and optimization of health information technology (HIT) products and services
3. Privacy and security protections for health information
4. Supportive business, clinical, cultural and regulatory environments
5. Rules of engagement and governance

The plan also outlines the following guiding principles:

- Build upon the existing HIT infrastructure. The ONC will encourage stakeholders to build from existing HIT infrastructure, increasing interoperability and functionality.
- One size does not fit all. The ONC will focus on baseline interoperability across HIT infrastructure to allow for innovation and to customize technology to meet user needs.
- Empower individuals. The ONC will support making information from health care delivery systems easier to access for the public using integrated HIT.
- Leverage the market. Payment and care delivery reform increases demand for interoperability and ONC will work with and support these efforts.
- Simplify. The ONC prioritizes simple solutions first, when possible.
- Maintain modularity. The ONC will support complex systems that are composed of independent components to allow for change over time.
- Consider the environment and support multiple levels of advancement. The ONC will support the full range of capabilities among users as they advance interoperability.
- Focus on value. The ONC will focus on the greatest value for individuals and providers, and the triple aim of improved health, health care and lower costs.
- Protect privacy and security in all aspects of interoperability.

Click [here](#) to read the concept paper.

For questions regarding this HITOC update, please contact Justin Keller, Policy Analyst at the Office of Health Information Technology, at Justin.keller@state.or.us, or (971) 208-2967.

The Oregon Office of Health Information Technology will be seeking candidates to join our close-knit team of dedicated policy, HIT and HIE professionals. Please visit our [website](#) regularly to find information about future available positions at OHIT.