December 2024 eNews

Welcome to the OHA's Health Information Technology (IT) eNewsletter! Here you will find updates on health IT in Oregon and at the federal level. For a deeper dive into health IT in Oregon, check out the [Policy and Program Updates](#). If there are specific items you would like to see in this newsletter, please send ideas to HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

Oregon's Health IT Oversight Council (HITOC)

December Meeting

HITOC's next meeting is [December 12](#) from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and will be virtual. HITOC will provide input to the Oregon Health Policy Board on experiences with coordinated care organizations. Members of the public are invited to provide input as well. Much of the meeting will focus on the 2025 HITOC Workplan. Members will identify priority topics and projects for the upcoming year.

As always, a public comment period will be available: refer to the [meeting agenda](#) for times or email HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

CCO Procurement Community Input

The Oregon Health Policy Board (OHPB) would like to hear about Oregon Health Plan (OHP) member successes, challenges, and experiences with coordinated care organizations (CCOs). Input will inform the board's recommendations about the CCO model to the Oregon Health Authority and the Governor's office. OHPB is looking for stories from health care providers, caregivers, community-based organizations (CBOs) and OHP members. They are particularly interested to know more about CCO efforts regarding behavioral health referrals or partnerships, health care for children, and care that goes beyond medical appointments to support social and environmental development (such as information about, or access to, air conditioning or housing programs).

There are a few ways to share your stories with OHPB:

- Emailing a written comment to HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov
- Joining the December HITOC meeting and sharing during a public comment period
- Completing the input survey
  - [OHPB CCO Feedback Survey](#)
  - [Encuesta de opinión sobre las CCO/ Spanish OHPB CCO Feedback Survey](#)
- Sharing your experiences during [OHPB's January meeting](#)

Written submissions will be compiled and shared with OHPB members then posted to the website. OHPB will host a separate event in early 2025 for CCO staff to share their experiences.

If you have any questions or request assistance, please contact Suzanne Cross at suzanne.l.cross@oha.oregon.gov or (541) 640-2994. Additional information is available on the [OHPB website](#) or by subscribing to [OHPB updates](#).

Accessing Epic Clinical Information Outside of the EHR: EpicCare Link

HIT Commons, in partnership with OHA, hosted a learning webinar and published [this resource document](#) to assist community providers in connecting to and navigating the EpicCare Link tool. EpicCare Link is a free web-based portal that allows providers, such as referring physicians, care managers, and others, read-only access to a patient's medical record at a participating hospital/health system's Epic electronic health record (EHR). Through a single sign-on feature, providers can access most Oregon hospital records electronically to avoid costly and timely manual medical records requests. A recording of the November 6 webinar is available [here](#). If you have issues accessing the recording or other questions, please email Justin Keller, HIT Commons, at justin@ohlc.org.

Piloting School-based Provider Access to Hospital Notifications

With support from HIT Commons and OHA, Centennial School District became the first in Oregon to go live on the [PointClickCare health IT tool (formerly EDIE / Collective Medical platform)](#) in September 2024. Through this pilot, Oregon school-based providers can be informed in real-time when youth have a hospital encounter, which empowers new ways to engage and support youth and their families and to ensure youth receive the school-based supports they need following a behavioral health crisis. This Centennial pilot is being implemented in partnership with the Multnomah Educational Service District with funding and staff support from HIT Commons. More information about this pilot is available [here](#). HIT Commons is seeking an additional Oregon school or educational service district to sponsor under this pilot. Interested organizations should email Justin Keller at justin@ohlc.org.

What We're Tracking

TEFCA Common Agreement Version 2.1

The Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy (ASTP), formerly the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), released an updated version of the Common Agreement on November 26, 2024. More information is available in the [public notice](#).

Federal Policy Comment Opportunities

Public Feedback: Cancer Clinical Trials Matching Dataset

ASTP welcomes public feedback on the US Core Data for Interoperability + (USCDI+) Cancer Clinical Trials Matching draft dataset. The goal is to establish a standardized set of data elements reported in a

consistent format. The dataset would improve the accuracy and efficiency of matching patient data with open clinical trial protocols. ASTP is seeking input on the importance, ease of collection, and potential burden of electronically capturing and exchanging these data elements. Comments are due by December 20, 2024 and can be submitted through the [USCDI+ platform](#). More information is available [here](#).

Public Feedback: USCDI+ Respiratory Illness

ASTP is seeking public feedback on the USCDI+ Respiratory Illness and the acute respiratory distress (ARDS) draft data elements and their role in enhancing clinical trials. ASTP is seeking input on the importance, ease of collection, and potential burden of electronically capturing and exchanging these data elements. Please submit all comments by January 17, 2025, through the [USCDI+ platform](#). More information is available [here](#).

Upcoming Events: OHA Health IT Meetings/Events

- December 12, 2024, 12:30-3:30 (Virtual): [HITOC Meeting](#)
- January 24, 1:00-4:00 (Virtual): CCO [Health IT Advisory Group (HITAG) quarterly meeting](#)

Want to weigh in on OHA's Health IT work? How to make public comment:

OHA's Health IT committee and workgroup meetings (i.e., HITOC, HITAG) are open to the public, and public comment is always welcome at the meeting during the specified time or in writing at any time. Public comment is an important part of OHA's committee work and is an opportunity for members of the public to provide input and feedback to the Committee or Workgroup.

Meetings: Typically, the public comment period is held at the end of each meeting. There may occasionally be more than one comment period. Members of the public are asked to comment or post in the chat only during this period, and to keep verbal comments to about 2 minutes. The public comment period is held solely for the public to share their thoughts with the Committee or Workgroup. Committee members are unlikely to ask questions or respond to public comment directly but consider public comments during committee work. If you know before the meeting that you'd like to provide public comment, you can email HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov to sign up. If you'd like to provide public comment during the meeting, you can message one of the hosts to sign-up. If you are unable to message, please speak up during the open public comment period.

Written Comment: You can also send written public comment to HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov at any time. To be included in the materials a meeting please submit the comment no less than 2 business days before the intended meeting. Please specify which group it is for – HITOC, HIE Workgroup, or HITAG. Written comment is emailed out and posted as part of meeting materials.

Have questions about public comment? We want to hear from you! Please email HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Everyone has a right to know about and use Oregon Health Authority (OHA) programs and services. OHA provides free help. Some examples of the free help OHA can provide are:

- CART (live captions)
- Sign language and spoken language interpreters
- Written materials in other languages
- Braille
- Large print
- Audio and other formats

If you need help or have questions, please email HITOC.INFO@odhsoha.oregon.gov or contact (503) 373-7859 at least 48 hours before the meeting. OHA will make every effort to provide services for requests made closer to the meeting.