Oregon Health Information Technology Program

Oregon’s coordinated care model increasingly relies on access to patient information and the health information technology (HIT) infrastructure to share and analyze data. Optimization of the health care system through the right technology tools is a key part of Oregon’s efforts to better coordinate care, improve outcomes and lower cost for all Oregonians.

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.

Passed in 2015, House Bill 2294 advances the state’s HIT efforts by establishing the Oregon HIT Program within OHA. The bill expanded OHA’s ability to offer HIT services beyond Medicaid, to the private sector, and provided OHA greater flexibility in working with stakeholders and partners. HB 2294 also updated the role of the HIT Oversight Council (HITOC), directing HITOC to report to the Oregon Health Policy Board.

Partnerships

HIT Commons
The Oregon Health Leadership Council (OHLC) and OHA, along with many stakeholders, are creating a public/private HIT governance partnership for Oregon known as the HIT Commons. A shared governance model will help accelerate HIT adoption and use across Oregon, leverage public and private investments, expand access to high-value data sources (see EDIE and PDMP Gateway below), and advance a network of networks approach to health information exchange. **Launching 2018.**

Emergency Department Information Exchange
In 2015, OHA partnered with OHLC to launch the Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE) Utility in Oregon. EDIE provides real-time notifications of emergency room and hospital events as well as care recommendations for patients who visit the emergency department frequently, with the goal of reducing avoidable hospital utilization and improving health outcomes. EDIE Utility is a public/private partnership to fund and govern the EDIE infrastructure. **EDIE Utility will be encompassed under the HIT Commons in 2018.**

Vision and Goals for HIT:

In an HIT-optimized health care system:

- Oregonians have their core health information available where needed so their care team can deliver person-centered, coordinated care.

- Clinical and administrative data are efficiently collected and used to support quality improvement and population health management, and incentivize improved health outcomes. Aggregated data and metrics are also used by policymakers and others to monitor performance and inform policy development.

- Individuals and their families access, use and contribute their clinical information to understand and improve their health and collaborate with their providers.
PreManage for Medicaid organizations
PreManage complements EDIE, allowing hospital event data to be pushed to health care organizations outside the hospital setting. Notifications inform providers, health plans, coordinated care organizations (CCOs) and health systems when their patients or members are seen in an emergency department or hospital, allowing them to intervene—in real-time, if needed—with individuals who are high utilizers of emergency department services.
- Organizations may subscribe to PreManage for their members or patients, and health plans or CCOs may sponsor subscriptions to PreManage for their key clinics. Since 2016, OHA has sponsored a subscription for many Medicaid organizations.

PDMP Gateway: Electronic access to Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
Authorized Oregon prescribers, pharmacists and their delegates can now access Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data within their electronic workflow via the PDMP Gateway. Access to accurate and timely PDMP information at the point of care can help inform clinical decisions and improve patient care. OHA launched the PDMP Gateway in summer 2017.
- Currently, organizations pay an annual PDMP Gateway vendor fee to participate. A statewide subscription is planned for 2018, which will leverage significant federal match, state funds, and private contributions under the HIT Commons.

Medicaid EHR Incentive Program and OMMUTAP
- The Medicaid Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program provides incentive payments to eligible health care professionals and hospitals to support their investments in EHRs. Incentives are available for adopting and demonstrating the “meaningful use” of certified EHR technology. Program Year 2016 was the last year to start the multi-year incentive program, which runs through 2021.
- Oregon’s Medicaid Meaningful Use Technical Assistance Program (OMMUTAP) helps Oregon’s eligible Medicaid providers adopt and use certified EHR technology and meet requirements for federal EHR incentive programs. The program ends May 2019.

Flat File Directory for Direct secure messaging
Direct secure messaging is a HIPAA-compliant, secure method for exchanging any protected health information, and is commonly used by providers and hospitals to send transition of care summaries. The Flat File Directory is Oregon’s combined address book for Direct secure messaging addresses, allowing participants to find or "discover" Direct addresses outside their own organizations.
In Development

**Health Information Exchange Onboarding Program**
The Health Information Exchange (HIE) Onboarding Program is designed to advance the exchange of information across Oregon’s Medicaid provider network, to support care coordination amongst providers supporting the same patient. The program will leverage 90 percent federal funding to support the initial costs of connecting (onboarding) priority Medicaid providers to community-based HIEs. Priority Medicaid providers include behavioral health providers, oral health providers, critical physical health providers and others. Later phases include the onboarding of long-term services and supports, social services and other critical Medicaid providers. *Launching in 2018.*

**Oregon Common Credentialing Program**
The Oregon Common Credentialing Program will provide a web-based system to improve efficiencies and relieve burden related to practitioner credentialing. The program will collect and verify health care practitioner credentialing information, and will be used by credentialing organizations for the purposes of credentialing and recredentialing practitioners. Participation in the program is legislatively mandated and will be funded via fees. *Launching in 2018.*

**Provider Directory**
This state-level Provider Directory will be a source of accurate healthcare practitioner and practice setting information that can be accessed by health care entities, such as providers, care coordinators, CCOs, health plans, and state agencies. The Provider Directory will leverage data from existing, trusted data sources, including the Oregon Common Credentialing Program. The program is funded through 90 percent federal match, and will initially support Medicaid-related organizations. *Launching in 2018.*

**Clinical Quality Metrics Registry**
This statewide registry will collect clinical quality data for Oregon’s Medicaid program, including required performance metrics for CCOs and the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Over time, the CQMR may support additional programs to enable a “report once” strategy, where providers could send data to the CQMR to meet requirements for multiple reporting programs and thus reduce administrative burdens. The program is funded through 90 percent federal match, and will initially support Medicaid-related reporting. *Launching in 2018.*