

Common Credentialing Advisory Group

Meeting Summary

September 5, 2014

Committee Members in Attendance

Debra Bartel (By Phone)	Kevin Ewanchyna
Erick Doolen	Andre Fortin
William Donlon (By Phone)	Stephen Godowski
Jim Dorrigan (By Phone)	Kathleen Haley
Larlene Dunsmuir (By Phone)	Shannon Jones
Tooba Durrani (By Phone)	Jean Steinberg (By Phone)
Denal Everidge (By Phone)	Joan Sonnenburg

Committee Members Not in Attendance

Rebecca Jensen	Michelle Murray
----------------	-----------------

Staff

Melissa Isavoran, OHA	Terry Bequette, IT Consultant, (By Phone)
-----------------------	---

Also in Attendance

Scott Gallant, Consultant, Gallant Policy Advisors

Kevin Ewanchyna welcomed everyone to the meeting and updated the Group on the progress. The RFP, originally planned to go out in July, has been delayed in the procurement process. The OHA would like to be extra diligent in going through the steps so that the end result will be a successful implementation.

Melissa added that there are several additional steps that need to be taken and that a QA vendor must be included. There are additional technical requirements and security issues that need to be ironed out. The RFP will also need to go through the CIO's office. Terry Bequette had outlined a "yellow brick road" of the process at the last meeting. These delays mean that there is a possibility of requiring legislation to extend the date and the OHA is working on contingency planning from that perspective.

Scott Gallant met with Senator Bates to let him know the concerns of not being able to successfully meet the January 1, 2016 operational mandate. They discussed the options of extending the deadline or adding language allowing the OHA to determine the operational date by rule, allowing at least six months' notice for mandated participants.

Kevin Ewanchyna stressed again the importance of making sure this process goes smoothly and involving the CIO in the IT decisions, especially in the light of the recent IT challenges in the State. Other

states are also watching us since we will be the first state to implement a Common Credentialing program.

Others in the Group were in agreement that we should not rush the process. Kevin would like Melissa to let the Legislators know that the CCAG members are all in support of not rushing through the process.

Membership

Melissa had sent out letters to the group of their interest to stay on the Group and a term that they would like to serve. Some members had replied. Mike Bond, Dennis Baughman and Laurence Sharp resigned. Melissa is still looking for an Ambulatory Surgical representative and IPA representative. If anyone knows of people they would like to recommend, the recommendation should be directed to Melissa.

Kevin added that it is important to have members committed and sign on for at least 2 years, if not 3 years to provide consistency and continuation. It is also important to have staggered terms so that all members will not leave at the same time. Letters of confirmation of membership and terms will be sent out to the group shortly.

Defining Credentialing Organization

As we move past the RFP process, there will be many issues that still need to be addressed. One of these is to define what "Credentialing Organizations" encompasses. While the term credentialing is defined in OAR 409-045-0025, there is still room for interpretation of this term. Melissa put together a guide that is to be used as a first step for organizations attempting to make the determination of whether or not they are a credentialing organization. This guide can be considered a work in progress.

The Group is asked to read through this document to ensure that all are on the same page regarding the correct definitions. Any comments should be directed to Melissa.

Credentialing Delegation Agreements

Organizations currently use different delegation agreements. Many are wondering how this will impact on the Oregon Common Credentialing Program (OCCP). Melissa identified several types of delegation agreements currently in use and attempted to understand the feasibility and necessity of continuing with such agreements post implementation of the OCCP. Once the OCCP is in place, some delegation agreements may be unnecessary, in violation of the information use laws under OAR 409-045-0060, or could impact the ability to track and manage the credentialing activity of health care practitioners.

Melissa identified three possible solutions:

1. Change the current Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) to only allow practitioner information obtained by a Credentialing Organization through the Solution to be used for the intended purpose of credentialing for that credentialing organization.

Possible rule change to mitigate the sharing of practitioner information...
Use of Health Care Practitioner Information - OAR 409-045-0060

- (i) A credentialing organization that, in good faith, uses credentialing information provided by the Solution for the purposes of credentialing health care practitioners is immune from civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the use of that credentialing information.
 - (ii) Health care practitioner information obtained by a Credentialing Organizations through the Solution may only be used for the intended purpose of credentialing for that credentialing organization.
 - (iii) All health care practitioner information that is received, kept, and maintained in the Solution, except for general information used for directories, is exempt from public disclosure under ORS 192.410 to 192.505.
2. Add delegation agreement language to the OARs that clearly identifies allowable agreements, proper practitioner information confidentially practices, and a requirement that any practitioners added to a credentialing organization's panel through a third party agreement must be reported to the OCCP.

Possible rule addition to manage delegation agreements...

Delegation Agreements - OAR 409-045-00?? (NEW)

- (i) Credentialing organizations may use delegation agreements to...
 - (ii) Delegation agreements must be reported to the Authority by...
 - (iii) Delegation agreements must include protections for the sharing of information
3. Identify specifically how fees will be charged in the OARs. At this time, OAR language simply identifies the OHA's intention to impose fees on credentialing organizations and possibly health care practitioners. The specifics would need to be carefully developed and vetted post RFP responses to ensure the appropriate cost and fee structure has been identified.

Kevin would like the Group look over the issues of delegation agreements and possible solutions and also would like the Technical Advisory Group to do some due diligence into this topic as it may have implications on the OCCP, including legal issues with contracts currently in place, privacy issues and financial impacts. A road map on how to get through these issues will be helpful. The Group agreed.

Melissa will organize a meeting with the OHA's Technical Advisory Group and bring their findings and research back to this Group.

Oregon Common Credentialing Program Communications Strategy

Melissa informed the Group that we now have a formal Communications Strategy in place. The goal is to create a standard message that will go out to all. The OHA web page has also been revised to make it easier to find information. There is a Frequently Asked Questions page which will be updated to reflect the current changes. As more and more people are getting to know about the OCCP, there will be many questions and this will likely be the first place that they will be directed to. The new website URL is: <http://www.oregon.gov/oha/OHPR/occp/Pages/index.aspx>

Kevin would like to see added in the FAQ the difference between hospital privileging and credentialing.

Melissa thanked Amy Harris, an intern, who helped put together the FAQ as part of her MPH program.

Kevin thanked the Group once again for taking the time to attend these meetings and really appreciates the input.

Public Comment

Julie McCann, MODA Health's Credentialing Supervisor

Julie thinks that there are more pieces of the Delegation Agreement that are not included and missing from the above. She participates in the OHA's technical Advisory Group and will provide input in that forum.

Julie made note that she would also like to see an NCQA representative at this meeting to get their perspective and input

Next Steps and Adjournment

Next meeting scheduled for October 6, 2014 in Salem.