

Oregon’s Strategic Plan for Health Information Technology 2024-2028

Executive Summary

Oregon’s Health Information Technology (IT) Strategic Plan 2024-2028 (Strategic Plan) provides high-level priorities, guidance, and direction for health IT over the next five years. It outlines the overall vision and the focus areas for everyone using or impacted by health IT in Oregon (referred to as “partners”). Partners include, but are not limited to:

- Individuals (consumers/patients)
- Providers and clinic staff
- The Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon
- Community-based organizations (CBOs)
- Hospitals
- Health systems
- Coordinated care organizations (CCOs) and health insurance plans
- Technology partners
- State agencies

The Strategic Plan was developed by the Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) over a multi-year process involving HITOC meetings, extensive community engagement, two workgroups, and staff support from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

HITOC: HITOC brings together partners across Oregon for health IT strategic planning, policy work, oversight, and landscape assessment to ensure health IT supports health equity and improves the health system. HITOC was established by Oregon’s legislature in 2009 and reports to the Oregon Health Policy Board.

Vision: *HITOC’s overall future direction for health IT in Oregon.*

Health IT empowers individuals and communities to reach their full health potential and well-being.

Principles: *Values that guide and inform each aspect of the Strategic Plan.*

1. Health IT must **advance health equity** and avoid reinforcing or worsening inequities.
2. **Privacy and security** of people’s health information is expected.
3. Ensure **individuals and communities understand how their data is stored, shared, and used** to provide transparency and grow trust.
4. Leverage existing resources and **align with national standards**.
5. **Improve efficiency** and avoid adding burden.
6. Ensure efforts are **sustainable** with thoughtful **intentional progress**.

Goals: *High-level desired outcomes for health IT long-term.*



A. People can be actively involved in their care through access to health IT. Individuals, and those they designate, contribute, access, and use their information to understand and improve their health and collaborate with their care team and social services.



B. Individuals' information is electronically available, exchanged securely and seamlessly between, and able to be understood by, individuals, their care team, and social services, to support high-quality and person-directed care.



C. Health IT supports efficient and accurate data collection, sharing, and use for policy development, quality improvement, population health, value-based care, and public health, leading to improved health outcomes and reduced health inequities.



D. Health IT design, implementation, and use must center health equity, especially to support social determinants of health (SDOH) efforts as part of whole-person care, care coordination, social services, and more, to achieve health equity.

Strategies and Activities: *Strategies are a general plan, policy, or area of focus to achieve multiple long-term goals. Activities are the 25 steps and actions to achieve the Strategies. Some Activities are summarized below; see the full Strategic Plan for all Activities.*

- 1. Strengthen engagement, access, and rights of patients and consumers**
 - Increase patient and consumer agency over their health information by including them in decision-making and facilitating more engagement opportunities.
 - Strengthen accessibility of health IT for patients by ensuring content is culturally and linguistically appropriate and providing more supports like education.
- 2. Close remaining electronic health record (EHR) gaps**
 - Prioritize resources for groups that have lower EHR adoption rates, such as behavioral health, oral health, providers in rural areas, long-term care, carceral settings, school-based clinics, and small independent physical health providers.
 - Advocate for regulatory alignment and supportive policies at state and national levels to reduce provider burden and costs.
- 3. Spread health information exchange (HIE) across the state**
 - Encourage more participation in HIE networks and make more data available for HIE, especially state data.
 - Provide funding and support for HIE adoption and use, especially for providers facing barriers, like oral, behavioral, and rural health.
 - Clarify standards, provide clear guidance, and share best practices on data sharing priorities and HIE options.

4. Support, accelerate, and improve statewide **community information exchange (CIE)** efforts
 - Provide support for CBOs and additional partners to participate in CIE.
 - OHA and the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) should support and participate in statewide CIE efforts by using CIE where appropriate and supporting CIE advancement efforts.
 - Use aggregated data for policy recommendations and resource allocation and align privacy and security efforts with principles of community/individual decision-making.
5. Improve **interoperability** and encourage broad sharing of valuable data
 - Create opportunities to facilitate interoperability.
 - Identify which data is useful for which providers and prioritize that data for sharing.
 - Utilize state and federal policy levers to support data standardization, interoperability, and data sharing.
 - Promote public/private partnership and shared funding, and study and address gaps in data and interoperability.
6. Evolve **governance** of health IT efforts
 - Clarify and define governance and develop governance principles.
 - Explore new models of governance for CIE, HIE, and other cross-sector health IT governance in Oregon.

Link to Full Strategic Plan

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/OHIT-HITOC/Documents/OregonStrategicPlanforHealthIT2024-2028.pdf>

How to provide feedback

To provide feedback to HITOC on this plan or other topics, please email HITOC.info@odhsoha.oregon.gov or provide public comment at a HITOC meeting.

Accessibility

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Strategic Plan Infographic

