

Oregon Common Credentialing Program Suspension

OCCP Suspension

- OHA has decided to suspend the Oregon Common Credentialing Program (OCCP)
- There remains broad consensus that the concept of centralizing credentialing information has merit
- We encountered challenges prohibiting the implementation of a cost-effective program that benefits all Oregon practitioners.

Why is OHA suspending the OCCP?

- We find ourselves at a financial crossroads for OCCP
- Stakeholder support for the OCCP has changed over time
- Evaluating OCCP and competing priorities

Timing of decision

- OHA found varying levels of support from stakeholders
 - many of whom have expressed significant concerns about the complexities and effort needed to change business practices to work with a centralized system
- To mitigate these concerns OHA intended to slow down the rollout of this program
 - OHA planned to extend the Early Adoption/pilot phase as long as necessary to ensure the program would be successful, before requiring widespread participation
- However, this plan resulted in a budget shortfall
 - OHA had to weigh varying levels of stakeholder support coupled with a \$12 million financial request to the Legislature for OCCP against other Agency priorities

Impacted parties

- Practitioners and credentialing organizations
- OHA's contractors for OCCP
- OCCP Stakeholder committees

What the suspension means

- We will document and wrap up current work on all aspects of the program. Vendors will stop work, and we will repurpose staff for other priority work.
- After wrapping up current work, OHA will explore lessons learned with stakeholders and assess whether there are other opportunities to reduce practitioner burden related to credentialing.

Impact on rules and legislation

- OHA updated the administrative rules earlier this summer to reflect a slow down in the rollout of the program
- In the coming weeks, OHA will revise or repeal the administrative rules to reflect the program suspension
- The legislation will remain in place - this allows us to return to the program at a later time.

Status of OCCP IT development

- Suspending the program is a business decision, not a technology decision
- OHA's vendors delivered a functioning system that would be ready for users to begin testing
- OHA's suspension of the program means we will not initiate the User Acceptance Testing or Early Adoption/pilot phases.

Investment in OCCP to date

- OCCP was established by the Legislature without an allocation of startup funding. OHA has been covering program costs until the system is live.
 - OHA anticipated about \$10 million to implement the program and about \$6.5 million/year for ongoing operations. This budget represents a mix of contractor and staff costs.
 - OHA has spent approximately \$7 million dollars on the program, about \$1.5 million of which has been absorbed by OHA for initial planning costs and staff costs using agency and grant funds.
 - Ending the program now means we avoid a \$12 million funding request this biennium, and will instead work through our budget rebalance process to request about \$5.5 million in obligated/spent costs that were intended to be repaid through fees.

ACPCI

- OHA will continue to manage the Oregon Practitioner Credentialing (OPCA) and Recredentialing (OPRA) Applications
- The Advisory Committee on Physician Credentialing Information will continue to meet annually to evaluate whether changes to the OPCA and OPRA applications are needed

Provider Directory Impacts



Provider Directory impact

- The Oregon Provider Directory expected a data feed from Common Credentialing as a reputable source of truth for a number of data elements.
 - Without OCCP data, the Provider Directory project will turn to alternate methods to collect and validate data, such as third-party data cleansing services and bolstering Provider Directory data stewardship through its contractor.
 - Because the Provider Directory budget included funding to OCCP for this data, that budget will now be directed to data cleansing and data stewardship services.

The OCCP data feed

Benefits

- Go-to place for ~55,000 Oregon practitioners to enter their credentialing data
 - 26 provider types
- Primary source verification on certain elements
- 120-day requirement to update data
- Many Provider Directory data elements

Gaps

- Not all practitioners for a Provider Directory use case were included (e.g., facilities, care coordinators)
- Some Directory elements needed providers to update more often than 120 days
- Not all Directory elements were included in the OCCP attestation data
- No penalty for not participating
- Elongated roll-out to align with credentialing dates

Provider Data Alignment

Data Category	PD	CC
Practitioner demographics	X	X
Practice information and locations	X	X
License and certification information	X	X
Education and training details	X	X
Hospital and facility affiliations	X	X
Work history	X	X
Malpractice insurance, claims history, and personal information		X
Peer references		X
Attestation questions		X
Direct secure messaging address info and other HIE endpoints	X	
Other practice information*: Accepting new patients, office hours	X	X

*Optional data field in Common Credentialing

Testing status



- System testing continues
- OHA conducted a “reverse demo” with MiHIN and Peraton in early July
- Reverse demo revealed that while functionality is present, additional configuration sessions with MiHIN are needed prior to the conclusion of system test/beginning of user acceptance test (UAT)
- In-person meetings are scheduled for the week of Aug 13th
- New UAT dates will be announced when design sessions and subsequent system testing are completed

Next steps for OHA

- Research other verification data sources (e.g., Lexis Nexis)
- Analyze needs for additional data validation activities that would be run by the Oregon Provider Directory program
- Update communications messaging to remove OCCP as a key data source and meet with Brink to re-calibrate messaging
- Work with stakeholders to chart implementation path moving forward
 - Rollout for Health Information Exchange (HIE) use case
 - Prioritize next use cases to implement based on data readiness
 - CCO network use cases?
 - How to get an inclusive, complete, and updated set of data?