

## Office of Health Information Technology

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.

### Health Information Technology Oversight Council

#### Outcomes of August Meeting

After a hiatus due to the COVID-19 crisis, the Health IT Oversight Council (HITOC) reconvened on August 6, 2020 for their first meeting since February 2020. The meeting focused on how COVID-19 has changed the healthcare landscape and members discussed implications for health IT. HITOC Members were also updated on Race, Ethnicity, Language, and Disability (REALD) legislation passed in June. The following topics were covered in depth:

#### **HIT Supporting COVID Response**

HITOC heard from several presenters and discussed the impact of COVID and the role of HIT, including:

- Health information exchange efforts by HIT Commons/Collective Platform and Reliance eHealth

- Collaborative are focused on connecting providers with COVID patient data from various sources.

- OHA's Public Health Division presented on COVID wraparound grants to over 170 community-based organizations to provide contact tracing and social supports/wraparound services to people in isolation and quarantine due to COVID. OHA is exploring the potential to leverage Community Information Exchanges to support this work.

- HITOC members shared the impact of COVID on their organizations' HIT priorities, including ramping up telehealth and transitioning many employees to remote work.

#### **Preliminary Implications for HITOC Strategic Plan**

HITOC's Strategic Plan update work is expected to remain on hold until summer 2021 given the priority and changes related to COVID response and recovery. In the meantime, HITOC expects to focus on urgent priorities, such as the COVID response and HIT, centering health equity, HIT program sustainability, telehealth, and Public Health and HIT.

Meeting materials and agenda are available [here >](#).

## Behavioral Health Learning Collaborative Events

OHA is proud to sponsor two virtual Behavioral Health Learning Collaboratives this September to provide technical assistance to behavioral health organizations around the adoption or upgrade of electronic health record (EHR) systems and the adoption and use of health information exchange (HIE) tools. These events will bring together a variety of subject matter experts and behavioral health stakeholders to discuss topics related to behavioral health and health information technology. Funding for these events is provided through a SAMHSA block grant, and content was developed through the recommendations of the [Health Information Technology Oversight Council Behavioral Health HIT Workgroup](#).

These events are for anyone working with health records in a behavioral health organization including providers, administrators, IT staff, and office staff.

### Behavioral Health Learning Collaborative - September 1st

This event will provide an opportunity to hear from colleagues and experts on best practices, lessons learned, successes, and challenges around EHR adoption and upgrade, and health information exchange. Topics covered will include:

- Most widely used EHR systems in Oregon
- Considerations when adopting or upgrading an EHR
- Telehealth and how it integrates (or not) with an EHR
- Breakout discussions for like organizations

Questions and answers with Oregon experts

#### Event Details:

When: September 1, 2020 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Virtually, via Zoom

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/behavioral-health-learning-collaborative-health-information-technology-tickets-114594800132>

Agenda: We want this event to best meet your needs and request that you complete a brief survey to help us shape the agenda. The survey link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T7TV8GV>.

More information [here >](#)

### HIT Commons Behavioral Health Collaborative - September 21st

This event will bring you and other stakeholders together to share best practices around health information technology (HIT) and HIE tools. Our agenda will focus on guidance for using the finalized OHA Provider Confidentiality Toolkit, legal information and updates to 42 CFR Part 2, as well as breakout sessions covering various HIT/HIE applications for BH information sharing and opportunities for peer to peer learning.

#### Event Details:

When: September 21, 2020 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Where: Virtually, via Zoom

Register: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2YVZWTQ>

Contact: Shelley Buettner [shelley@orhealthleadershipcouncil.org](mailto:shelley@orhealthleadershipcouncil.org)

More details to come!

# August 2020



## Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Program Year 2020 Webinar

Do you have questions about the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program requirements for 2020? If so, please join us at our upcoming webinar on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Program Year 2020 will open for attestations on November 1, 2020 and close March 31, 2021. An informational webinar will be offered in August to cover requirements for Program Year 2020 with a question and answer session following.

### Event Details:

When: August 26, 2020 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Where: Virtually, via GoToWebinar

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4325114114579797263>

Questions: [Medicaid.EHRIncentives@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:Medicaid.EHRIncentives@dhsosha.state.or.us)

More information about the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program [here >](#)

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## Health Plan Quality Metrics Committee Seeking New Members

OHA is accepting applications for new members for terms beginning in October 2020 and May 2021. Committee members serve an initial two year term and may be reappointed at the discretion of the [Oregon Health Policy Board](#) for two additional one year terms. **We are especially interested in candidates with experience in health equity promotion, behavioral health, issues of health care cost containment and health care quality measurement.**

**To be considered for an October 2020 appointment, please submit applications by August 31, 2020.** Applications received after August 31 will be considered for May 2021 appointments. [Please see the application here.](#) Please send any questions to: [metrics.questions@state.or.us](mailto:metrics.questions@state.or.us).

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### Contact us

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