

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.

CMS Releases NPRM Building on Interoperability and Patient Access Final Rule

On December 10th, CMS released a proposed rule, building on the CMS Interoperability and Patient Access final rule (CMS-9115-F) that would require certain CMS-regulated payers to improve the electronic exchange of health care data via Application Program Interfaces (APIs) and streamline the prior authorization process to reduce burden on payers, providers, and patients. This proposed rule would place new requirements on Medicaid and CHIP managed care plans, state Medicaid and CHIP fee-for-service programs, and Qualified Health Plans (QHP) issuers on the Federally-facilitated Exchanges (FfEs).

For a summary of the proposed rule see the CMS [Fact Sheet](#). The proposed rule can be found here: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/121020-reducing-provider-and-patient-burden-cms-9123-p.pdf>.

The comment period closes on **January 4, 2021**.

Highlights of the NPRM include that starting January 1, 2023 payers:

- Add prior authorization decisions to Patient Access API information sharing requirements
- Implement a privacy policy attestation process for third-party app developers
- Implement a Provider Access API for payer-to-provider data sharing
- Reduce prior authorization burden through the implementation of APIs and other requirements
- Meet additional Payer-to-Payer requirements, including the use of a FHIR-based API, exchange additional patient information, and leverage prior authorization information during patient transitions
- Adopt specified implementation guides to support API implementation

The NPRM also includes five Requests for Information (RFIs). CMS is seeking comments on the following:

- Methods for Enabling Patients and Providers to Control Sharing of Health Information
- Electronic Exchange of Behavioral Health Information
- Reducing Burden and Improving Electronic Information Exchange of Documentation and Prior Authorization
- Reducing the Use of Fax Machines for Health Care Data Exchange

December 2020



Upcoming webinar Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

Please join us on Tuesday, January 12, from 1:00-2:00p.m. to learn about the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program (aka Promoting Interoperability Program) requirements for Program Year 2021. Program staff will walk through requirements and then be available for a question and answer session.

[Register for the webinar >](#)

For questions about the Program, please contact us 503-945-5898
or Medicaid.EHRIncentives@dhsosha.state.or.us.

A Holiday Message from the Office of Health IT

As 2020 comes to a close, we at the Office of Health IT can't help but feel grateful. In a year of what sometimes felt like endless turmoil, we found ourselves surrounded by a community of caring, smart, and innovative professionals. We had a unique vantage point as you go to great lengths to protect your fellow Oregonians, and we are grateful to have had the opportunity to play a role.

May 2021 find you well and bring you rest. And always, thank you for all you do.

Contact us

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