September 2018

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.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Integration Initiative: Launched!

HIT Commons and Appriss Health, in partnership with the Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Health Leadership Council, have joined to launch the statewide Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Integration initiative. For the first time, authorized Oregon prescribers and pharmacists can have one-click access to PDMP data within their own electronic workflow. This initiative aligns with broader state and federal efforts to increase the use of PDMPs to reduce inappropriate prescriptions, improve patient outcomes, and promote more informed prescribing practices.

Currently, Oregon prescribers and pharmacists must log in to separate systems to query patient PDMP information, which takes important time away from patient care. Integration simplifies the patient query process by making PDMP data directly available to prescribers and pharmacists in their daily workflow. This point-of-care integration increases the ease of access to and use of PDMP information for making critical clinical decisions, including the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances, as well as patient care and safety.

“When the relevant information you need is all in one place and easily accessible, it translates into improved and efficient care. The goal is to streamline the process, so everyone benefits.”
Saleen Manternach, MD, FACEP

You can learn more at the PDMP Integration initiative website >
All Oregon CCOs Now Leveraging PreManage for Hospital Event Notifications

For the first time, all Coordinated Care Organizations have access to the same electronic information about their members’ hospital events in Oregon, as well as when patients may travel to border states for hospital visits. PreManage enables CCOs to receive information in real time for members who have emergency department and in-patient admissions and discharges. Having access to PreManage improves communication and information sharing between CCOs, hospitals, contracted clinics (primary health, behavioral health, dental) and their Medicaid members. When providers have access to better information, they’re able to provide patients with more informed care, improving outcomes and even helping keep patients out of the emergency department when they could be better served with primary or specialty care.

All Oregon CCOs are now using PreManage under an OHA Medicaid Subscription for PreManage. PreManage is the companion product to the Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE), which is in use by all Oregon hospitals for alerting physicians to patients who frequent the ED or who have complex care needs.

You can learn more on the PreManage website >

New HITOC Workgroups:
Network of Networks and Behavioral Health Work Begin

The Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC) has chartered the following short-term workgroups this fall. The Network of Networks Technical Definitions Group and Advisory Group will begin exploratory work on the Network of Networks concept. The Network of Networks is a key part of HITOC’s strategy to promote statewide health information exchange (HIE), as described in HITOC’s 2017-2020 Strategic Plan (see pages 29-33).

- The technical definitions group began meeting in late summer 2018. It is advising OHA staff in developing foundational concepts and definitions, informed by Oregon’s HIE environment, to support the advisory group’s work. It will also provide ongoing technical advice to the advisory group.

- The second workgroup, the advisory group, will likely begin meeting in winter 2018. The advisory group will make recommendations to HITOC in 2019 about projects that support the planned Network of Networks Initiative, including key next steps for HITOC and/or the HIT Commons to consider in chartering the next stage of the work. HITOC anticipates that the Network of Networks Initiative work will transition to the HIT Commons in 2019.

You can learn more on our website >
New HITOC Workgroups, continued

HITOC also chartered a Behavioral Health HIT Workgroup, which is to provide input on HIT initiatives and efforts impacting behavioral health in Oregon, as well as to provide strategic input to HITOC and OHA. The Workgroup is comprised of a variety of organizations with characteristics that represent the breadth of experiences in Oregon’s behavioral health landscape.

You can find the Workgroup charter and all meeting materials, along with a complete list of Behavioral Health HIT Workgroup meetings on our website.

HITOC Highlights: Public Input for CCO 2.0 HIT Policy Options

HITOC hosted two special meetings to solicit input about health information technology (HIT) policy options for CCO 2.0, the next phase for Oregon’s Medicaid Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs). More than 100 Oregonians participated, including representatives from CCOs, behavioral health providers, health systems, consumer advocates, peer support specialists, primary care providers, and social determinants of health providers.

Meeting participants were highly engaged and provided significant input on the policy options. You can find more information about the HIT policy options and the CCO 2.0 process on the following websites:

Summaries of feedback >
Complete health information technology CCO 2.0 policy options >
Oregon Health Authority’s page, CCO 2.0: The Future of Coordinated Care >

The ONC is Seeking Your Feedback

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) is requesting public input on components of the developing Electronic Health Record (EHR) Reporting Program. As required through the 21st Century Cures Act, the EHR Reporting Program will provide publicly available, comparative information on certified health IT. This program can help inform providers and health care organizations about what’s available in the market and how products compare to each other. Written or electronic comments must be received no later than 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on October 17, 2018.

Learn more or submit feedback here >
Join the ACPCI: Call for Committee Member Nominations

The Advisory Committee on Physician Credentialing Information (ACPCI) is calling for committee member applications for a Health Plan Representative and a Health Care Practitioner Organization Representative. Nominees must possess knowledge about national standards related to health care practitioner credentialing. Member service lasts three years and requires attending an annual two-hour meeting.

You can learn more about the ACPCI and how to submit nominations on our website. Nominations will be accepted through close of business September 28, 2018.

Submit a nomination >

The Oregon Health Authority recently released this video, which highlights the success Central City Concern has had using PreManage, as well as one of many programs that helps patients overcome barriers that keep them following their care plans: housing, employment, education, and more.

View the video >