

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.

Federal Interoperability Final Rules Webinar for CCO/Payers

We're pleased to announce that OHA's Office of Health IT is hosting a Federal Interoperability Final Rules Webinar, specifically tailored to CCOs/payers (including Medicare Advantage plans). The webinar will take place on November 5, 2020, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

The [ONC](#) and [CMS](#) final rules implement interoperability and patient access provisions of the 21st Century Cures Act, requiring the implementation of new policies that will give patients unprecedented safe, secure access to their health data. National health IT subject matter expert, Rim Cothren, will present on the CMS Interoperability and Patient Access final rule payer requirements. In addition, representatives from the Oregon Health Authority who cover Medicaid coordinated care organizations (CCOs), dental care organizations (DCOs), and fee-for-service will be present to provide information and answer questions. Learn more about the webinar [here >](#)

[Register for the webinar >](#)

If you have questions about the webinar, please reach out to Marta Makarushka at Marta.M.Makarushka@dhsosha.state.or.us.

Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Opens November 1

Medicaid EHR Incentive Program (aka Promoting Interoperability Program) Program Year 2020 opens **November 1, 2020** for attestations.

Please review the requirements on our [Program Year 2020](#) webpage. You can also view our [Program Year 2020 Webinar](#) recording and [FAQs](#) in case you missed the live webinar on August 26. If you attested to Program Year 2019, that attestation must be processed and paid before you can submit your 2020 attestation.

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

New REALD Data Collection Requirements

As required by [House Bill 4212 \(2020\)](#), OHA rules now require health care providers to collect race, ethnicity, language, and disability (REALD) data for all COVID-19 encounters. After collection, providers must report this data to OHA with COVID-19 disease reporting. The requirement went into effect on October 1 for Phase 1 providers, with additional phases in 2021. Phase 1 providers include:

- Hospitals, except for licensed psychiatric hospitals;
- Health care providers within a health system; and
- Health care providers working in a federally qualified health center

REALD Resources and Learning Series

To help providers understand these requirements and the importance of REALD data, OHA has launched [a website](#) with FAQs and other resources including a learning series. Additional learning sessions are planned. To learn more, [explore the slides and recordings](#) from the following REALD learning sessions:

- Introduction to REALD
- Implementing new REALD data collection for Phase 1 providers (providers in hospitals, health systems, FQHCs)
- Strategies for asking REALD questions

The next session, "Using REALD data to advance health equity" is November 20 from noon to 1 p.m. [Register or learn more here.](#)

Technical Workgroup

OHA has convened a technical workgroup of Phase 1 provider organizations and technical experts to support and coordinate REALD implementation and achieve efficiencies. The group discusses necessary updates to EHR systems, public health data reporting options, workflow, and other implementation details. The group meets every other Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. If you are a Phase 1 provider organization and would like to join the group, please email Susan Otter at Susan.Otter@dhsosha.state.or.us.

[Learn more about REALD for health care providers >](#)

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New OHA Confidentiality Took Kit for Behavioral Health Providers

At the request of providers, OHA developed and recently released a confidentiality tool kit for behavioral health providers. The tool kit was created to help providers understand state and federal laws around sharing behavioral health information, especially information about substance use, diagnoses, and treatment.

The tool kit includes resources and examples to help navigate some of the confidentiality laws that protect a patient's behavioral health information while allowing appropriate information sharing to coordinate care.

Please [read the cover letter](#) and [view the tool kit](#) to learn more about the resources it offers, and whom to contact if you have questions.

Funding Opportunities for Community/State Data-Sharing Partnerships

Learning and Action in Policy and Partnerships (LAPP) is a new initiative that supports community-based organizations who are partnered with their state government to advance community-led programs focused on data-sharing efforts to improve health, equity and well-being.

The initiative, made possible through support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and led by Data Across Sectors for Health in collaboration with the [Center for Health Care Strategies](#), will enable communities to bolster state partnerships to better inform inclusive policy and systems alignment at both the community and state level.

LAPP participants will receive up to \$100,000 of targeted funds and technical assistance for community/state data-sharing initiatives. To be eligible, projects must already exist and be clearly defined. Funding will be awarded in February 2021 for a year-long project.

Awardees will be chosen through a competitive selection process with **applications due December 16, 2020**.

[Learn more about LAPP >](#)

Contact us

HealthIT.oregon.gov

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