RCE Kick Off
A Public Webinar
10/07/2019
How To Participate Today

Problems or Questions? Contact Dawn Van Dyke
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Your Participation

Open and close your control panel

Join audio:
- Choose “Mic & Speakers” to use VoIP
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Submit questions and comments via the Questions panel

Note: Today’s presentation is being recorded and will be provided
Meet the RCE Team

Mariann Yeager  
CEO  
The Sequoia Project

Dave Cassel  
Executive Director  
Carequality Inc.

Steve Gravely  
Founder & CEO  
Gravely Group

Stephanie Rizk  
Manager, Health IT Policy  
RTI International

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Agenda

• Welcome by Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC)
• Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement Overview
• Recognized Coordinating Entity Explained
• A Roadmap for Success
Welcome by Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT

Elise Sweeney Anthony
Executive Director
Office of Policy
Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement Overview
“[T]he National Coordinator shall convene appropriate public and private stakeholders to develop or support a trusted exchange framework for trust policies and practices and for a common agreement for exchange between health information networks.” [emphasis added]
Current Costs

Healthcare organizations are currently burdened with creating many costly, point-to-point interfaces between organizations.

The Trusted Exchange Framework and the Common Agreement would reduce the need for duplicative network connectivity interfaces, which are costly, complex to create and maintain, and an inefficient use of provider and health IT developer resources.

Proliferation of Interoperability Methods

A nationally representative survey by the American Hospital Association found¹ that:

- Few hospitals used only one interoperability method.
  - 78% of hospitals use more than one electronic method to send records
  - 61% of hospitals use more than one electronic method to receive records
  - About 40% used five or more methods to send records

TEFCA Goals

**GOAL 1**
Provide a single “on-ramp” to nationwide connectivity

**GOAL 2**
Electronic Health Information (EHI) securely follows you when and where it is needed

**GOAL 3**
Support nationwide scalability
How Will the Common Agreement Work?

RCE provides oversight and governance for QHINs.

QHINs connect directly to each other to facilitate nationwide interoperability.

Each QHIN represents a variety of Participants that they connect together, serving a wide range of Participant Members and Individual Users.
Timeline

- **Apr 2019**: RCE Notice of Funding Opportunity released
- **Jun 2019**: Public comment closes on TEF and MRTCs Draft 2 and QTF Draft 1
- **Aug/Sept 2019**: RCE Awarded
- **2020**: Common Agreement Version 1 released for production

- **TEF and MRTCs Draft 2 and QTF Draft 1 released for public comment**
- **Draft 2 and QTF Draft 1 released for public comment**
- **Common Agreement Version 1 released for production**
RCE Role and Planned Work
RCE Selection

- ONC posted a Notice of Funding Opportunity
- The Sequoia Project applied, with support from 55+ organizations
- The Sequoia Project was selected in September 2019
RCE Key Milestones

• Year 1
  • Planning and ramp up
  • Engage stakeholders and enlist input
  • Develop the Common Agreement
  • Update the QHIN Technical Framework (QTF) for production use
  • Develop a process to designate and monitor Qualified Health Information Networks (QHIN)

• Subsequent Years
  • Facilitate ongoing stakeholder engagement and input
  • Maintain Common Agreement
  • Maintain QTF
  • Designate and monitor QHINs
  • Propose sustainability strategies
What is The Common Agreement?

The **Common Agreement** will provide the governance necessary to scale a functioning system of connected HINs that will grow over time to meet the demands of individuals, clinicians, and payers.
What is the QHIN Technical Framework?

The **QHIN Technical Framework (QTF)** describes the technical and functional requirements for EHI exchange between QHINs.
Minimum Required Terms and Conditions (MRTCs)

• Definitions
• Initial application, onboarding, designation and operation of QHINs
• Data quality and minimum necessary
• Transparency (e.g. agreements and fee schedules, disclosures)
• Cooperation and Non-Discrimination
• Privacy, Security and Patient Safety
• Participant Minimum Obligations
• Participant Member Minimum Obligations
• Individual Rights and Obligations
Additional Required Terms and Conditions (ARTCs)

- Additional necessary terms for an effective, operational data sharing agreement
- May not conflict with MRTCs
- May include
  - Determine fee schedules
  - Process for surveilling and testing QHIN compliance
  - Arbitration for adjudicating non-compliance
  - Complaint and dispute resolution process
  - Suspension and termination
  - Other
Status and Next Steps

• Complete detailed work plan and stakeholder engagement strategy
• Detailed review and analysis of feedback and language undergoing revision
• Begin work on Common Agreement components in close coordination with ONC
• Launch additional stakeholder engagement process
• Host public webinars to maximize transparency
How to Get Involved
rce.sequoiaproject.org Website Launched
Upcoming Events

• Fall 2019
  Interoperability Matters Public Forum (TENTATIVE)

• December 5th
  The Sequoia Project Annual Meeting

* Other events to be announced
Thank You

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