ONC TEFCA
Recognized Coordinating Entity
Monthly Informational Call
August 18, 2020
This project is supported by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under 90AX0026/01-00 Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) Cooperative Agreement. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by ONC, HHS or the U.S. Government.
Agenda

• Welcome
• Year 1 in Review
• TEFCA Value Proposition
• Year 2 Priorities
• Next Steps
• Questions and Answers
Meet the RCE Team

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ONC TEFCA RCE Progress

- Common Agreement
- QHIN Technical Framework (QTF)
- QHIN Metrics Development
- Stakeholder Engagement and TEFCA Value Proposition
Common Agreement

• Completed ONC-RCE contract language review sessions
• Completed MRTC policy topic research
• Drafted and reviewed ARTCs with ONC
• Launched Common Agreement Work Group (CAWG)
  – Completed seven (7) CAWG Calls
  – Assembled initial working draft of Common Agreement for CAWG review
  – Two outstanding issues:
    • Security of THI and QHIN to QHIN Fees
• Participated in four (4) TEFCA Federal Work Group calls

• Next Steps:
  – Preparing to submit a draft Common Agreement Draft Version 1 to ONC for review
QHIN Technical Framework

• We are working with ONC to finalize the draft QHIN Technical Framework Draft 2
• Since all of the TEFCA elements are interrelated, there may be some incremental additions to the QTF as the Common Agreement is finalized
• The QTF Draft 2 builds on the structure of QTF Draft 1, adding significant detail including over 100 conformance statements
• We look forward to the upcoming public comment period
• We have received a great deal of feedback through previous sessions and informally about QHIN Message Delivery
• We continue to review options for a Message Delivery approach with ONC
QHIN Metrics Development

• Initial recommendations for proposed structural, process, and outcomes metrics were submitted and reviewed in May and June.
• Revisions to initial recommendations were completed in July.
• Planned stakeholder feedback activities:
  – July 21: Public Stakeholder Feedback webinar - Initial public review of recommendations and opportunity for feedback (*Completed*)
    • 583 registered; 230 attendees
    • Materials available at [https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/community-engagement/](https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/community-engagement/)
  – August 11: ONC Tech Forum presentation – Additional review and opportunity for feedback (*Completed*).
  – August through December: Review of feedback received, revisions, and follow up via Targeted Stakeholder Feedback opportunities.
Stakeholder Engagement / TEFCA Value Proposition
Targeted Outreach (Some groups have shifted based on experience)

- Healthcare providers across the continuum
- Health information networks
- Technology service providers
- Payers and purchasers
- Consumer and patient groups
- Local government and public health
- State governments
- Federal agencies

National and state associations included where appropriate
Overview of RCE Stakeholder Engagement Plan

• Year 1
  – Phase 1 (Nov – Dec 2019): Initial outreach, engagement and education ✓
  – Phase 2 (Jan – Mar 2020): Socialize concepts and enlist input ✓

• Remainder of Year 1 and Year 2
  – Phase 3 (before Common Agreement and QTF public comment period): Progress updates, outreach/education for specific groups, focus on value proposition, FAQs
  – Phase 4 (after Common Agreement and QTF public comment period): Provide progress updates on development of final CA and QTF
TEFCA Value Proposition

• Overall value proposition
  – Nationwide scale
  – Simplified connectivity
  – Standardized approaches to trust frameworks and technical standards

• Implications unique to stakeholder groups
  – Health information networks
  – Patients and consumers
  – Providers
  – Local government and public health
  – State government
  – Payers

• Build from stakeholder views
• Discuss what stakeholders can do to prepare

Benefits of TEFCA

Consumers: Access, share and control their own records

Providers and health systems: Obtain complete picture of care across all settings to improve care and coordination with fewer connection points

State programs and public health: Enhance understanding of health metrics, ease burden of public health reporting and program management

Payers: Get and share data needed for care management, value-based care, etc.
Perspectives

Patients and Consumers

- Easier access to your own health information from across “silos.”
- Greater likelihood that providers will share information to coordinate care
- Greater ability to direct sharing of information with providers and caregivers.
- Would be useful to support telehealth and online care during COVID.
- Will need to address privacy and security concerns.
- Concept of a consumer-facing HIN?

Health Information Networks

- Greater scope of data available
- More efficient exchange with fewer one-off connections.
- Potential to broaden reach and attract new types of participants.
- Potential to focus on value-add services and innovative business lines.
- Common approaches to directory services, authentication, and security.
- Collaborative framework to develop future road maps for use cases and technology adoption.
- Clear benefits for patients/consumers and for public health.
Year 2 Priorities

• Update Common Agreement and Develop Standard Operating Procedures
  – Review Public Comments and Revise Common Agreement
  – Draft Standard Operating Procedures
• Update the QHIN Technical Framework
  – Review Public Comments and Revise QTF
• Develop a QHIN Testing Program to Support Technical Compliance
• Develop QHIN Designation Process
• Stakeholder Engagement & Feedback
  – Stakeholder Engagement Plan
  – TEFCA Value Proposition