ONC TEFCA
Recognized Coordinating Entity
Monthly Informational Call
May 18, 2021

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
- RCE Status Update
- RCE Metrics Development
- TEFCA Development Process
- TEFCA Value Proposition
- Questions & Answers

Meet the RCE Team

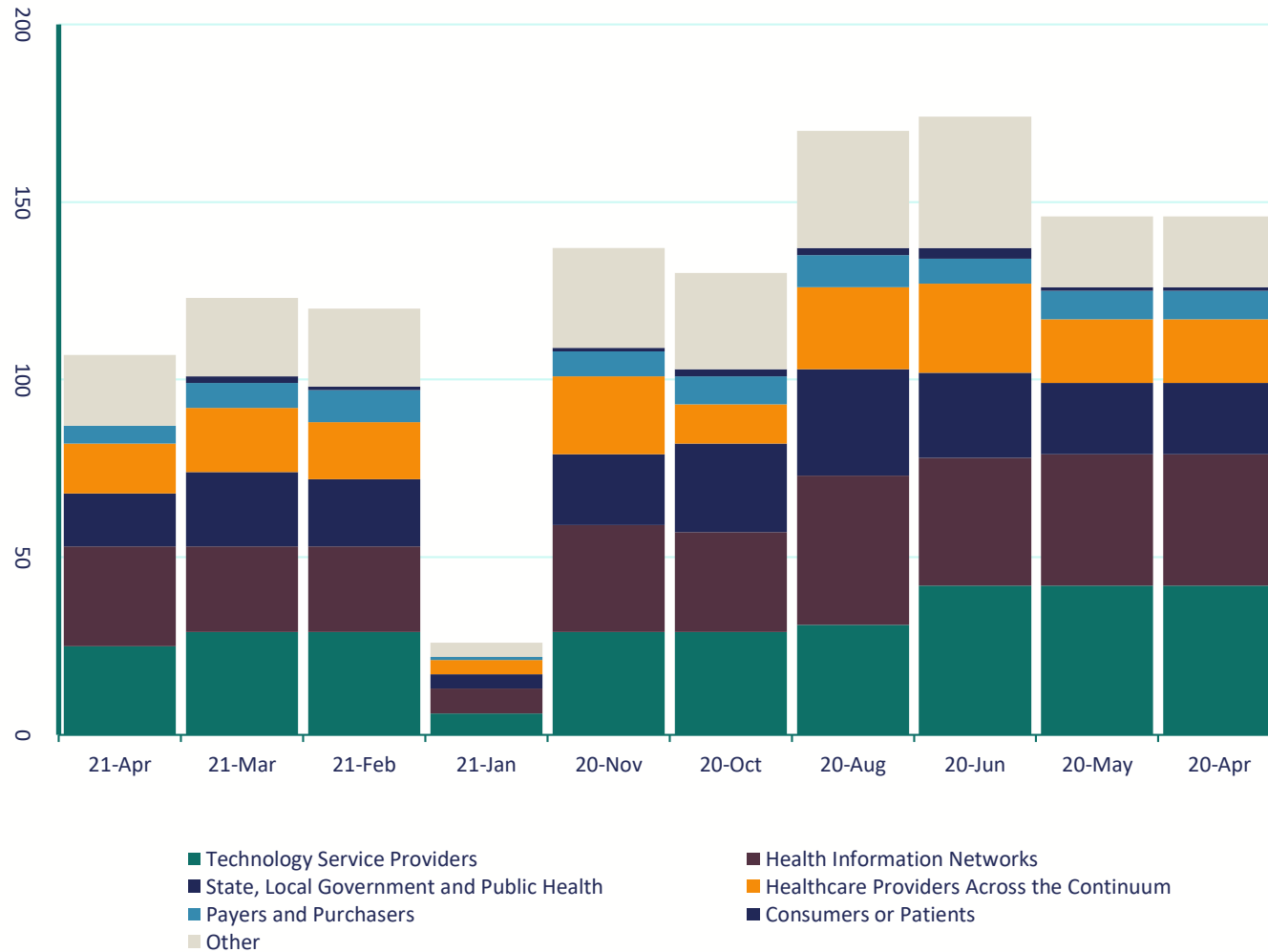Mariann Yeager
CEO
The Sequoia Project
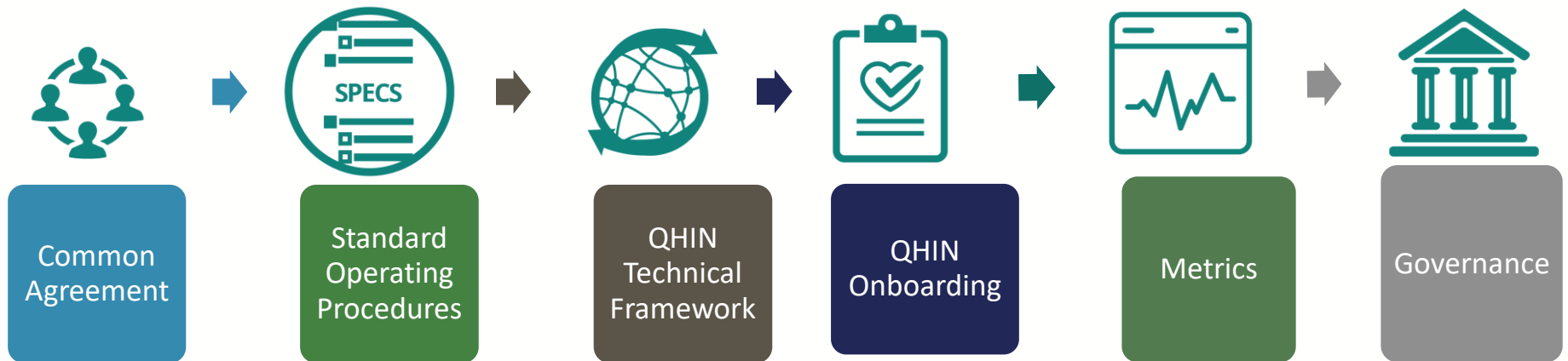
Alison Banger
Senior Manager
RTI International

Chantal Worzala
Principal,
Alazro Consulting

ONC
TEFCA
RECOGNIZED
COORDINATING
ENTITY

RCE Update

Monthly Public Informational Call Attendance

Legend:
- Technology Service Providers
- Health Information Networks
- State, Local Government and Public Health
- Healthcare Providers Across the Continuum
- Payers and Purchasers
- Consumers or Patients
- Other

TEFCA Elements

Common Agreement → Standard Operating Procedures → QHIN Technical Framework → QHIN Onboarding → Metrics → Governance
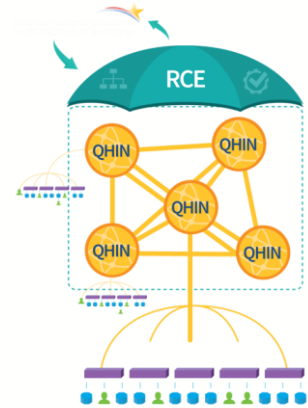
Status Update

- Prepare QHIN and RCE Metrics and facilitate Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) clearance

- Prepare Common Agreement Draft Version 1 for public comment

- Facilitate stakeholder feedback sessions

- Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- Define QHIN onboarding and designation process

- Prepare QHIN Technical Framework Draft Version 2 for public comment

RCE Metrics Development

ONC
TEFCA
RECOGNIZED
COORDINATING
ENTITY

Status Update

Proposed Year 1 Operational and Process Measures

- **Responses received from CAWG members providing details on proposed specifications of year 1 metrics.**
  - General support for third-party accreditation options: reduces potential for perception of bias; alignment would streamline existing business processes
  - Further understanding of the specifications will be required in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
  - Level of burden for providing data to support various proposed measures varies depending on current operational processes and infrastructure (some already have ability to provide, some would have to develop the ability).
- **Next Steps**: Finalize draft application for OMB Paperwork Reduction Act application; Coordinate feedback with SOP team.

1: Onboarding status

2: Initial Compliance

3: Ongoing Compliance - Policy

4: Ongoing Compliance - Technical

#5: Ongoing compliance – Network performance

6: Ongoing Compliance – Security
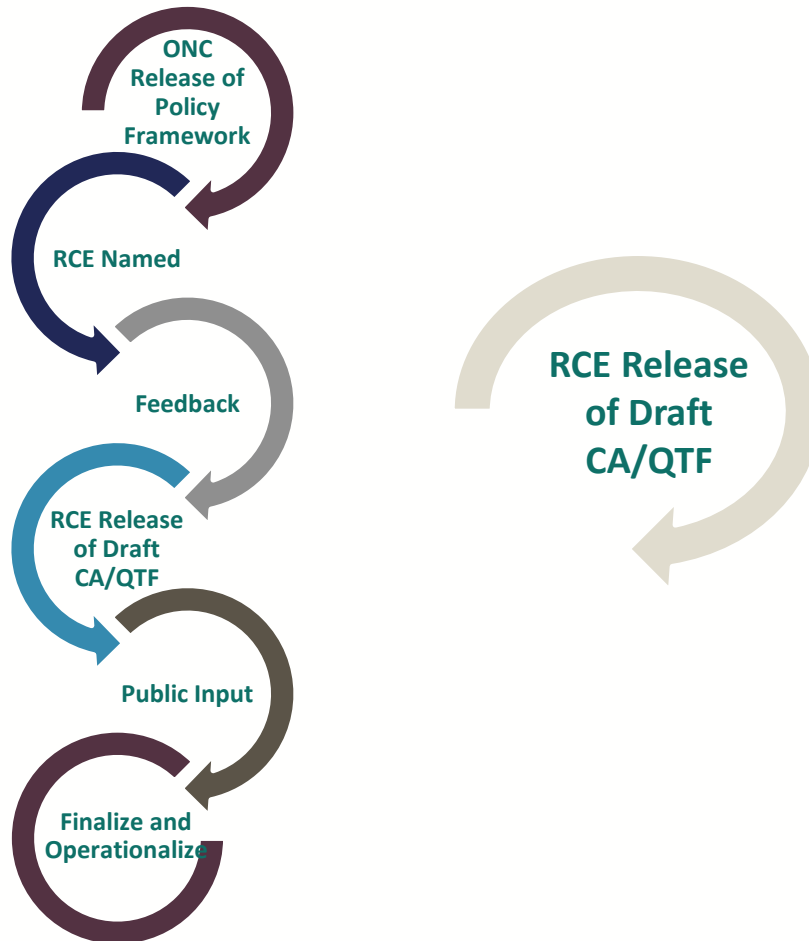
7: Ongoing Compliance – Flow Down Verification

8: Number of "member organizations" affiliated with QHIN

9: Report to RCE number of document deliveries/healthcare organization transaction volume - near term
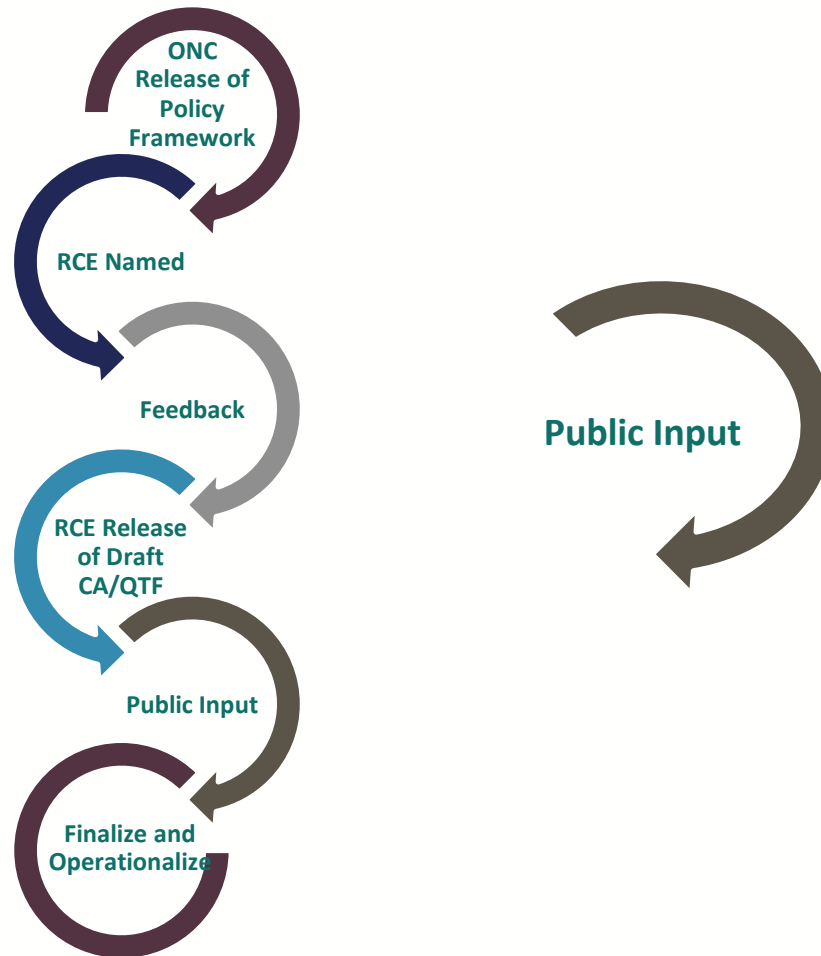
TEFCA Development Process

TEFCA Development Process

ONC Release of Policy Framework

RCE Named

Feedback

RCE Release of Draft CA/QTF

Public Input

Finalize and Operationalize

RCE Release of Draft CA/QTF

- RCE and ONC finalizing development of documents based on feedback and additional discussion – weekly calls

- ONC review process – focus on federal policy linkages

- RCE will release:

  - Common Agreement Draft 1

  - QHIN Technical Framework Draft 2

  - Summary and Educational Materials

- Submission of metrics to OMB for compliance with Paperwork Reduction Act and release for final comment opportunity

ONC TEFCA RECOGNIZED COORDINATING ENTITY

TEFCA Development Process

- ONC Release of Policy Framework
- RCE Named
- Feedback
- RCE Release of Draft CA/QTF
- Public Input
- Finalize and Operationalize

Public Input

- 60-Day Public Comment Period – RCE will compile feedback

- Educational awareness and public feedback sessions – held by RCE

  - Common Agreement

  - QHIN Technical Framework

- Continued development of Standard Operating Procedures – RCE to host public input opportunities

- Continued development of QHIN Onboarding and Application Process – RCE to host public input opportunities

ONC TEFCA RECOGNIZED COORDINATING ENTITY

TEFCA Development Process

- ONC Release of Policy Framework
- RCE Named
- Feedback
- RCE Release of Draft CA/QTF
- Public Input
- Finalize and Operationalize

Finalize and Operationalize

- ONC and RCE develop final Common Agreement and QHIN Technical Framework based on comment

- Finalize metrics

- Complete and launch QHIN Onboarding and Application Process

- Establish TEFCA Governance Process

- Educate stakeholders

ONC TEFCA RECOGNIZED COORDINATING ENTITY

TEFCA Value Proposition

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
  - State government and public health – *Coming soon*
  - Providers – *Coming soon*
  - Payers – *In process*

- **Build from stakeholder views**
- **Discuss what stakeholders can do to prepare**

rce.sequoiaproject.org

ONC TEFCA RECOGNIZED COORDINATING ENTITY

The Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement –

Benefits for Health Information Networks (HINs)

Together with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), we are building the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) established by the 21st Century Cures Act. Once operational, the TEFCA will facilitate exchange of health information on a nationwide scale, simplify connectivity among networks, and create efficiency by establishing a standardized approach to exchange policies and technical frameworks.

The TEFCA will offer nationwide approach for the exchange of relevant health information to support a range of exchange purposes, such as treatment, payment, quality assessment, benefits determination, consumer access to health information, and public health.

The TEFCA will provide a common set of rules that are federally recognized, greatly reducing the burden health information networks (HINs) currently face when they try to establish connections with entities outside their networks. Consistent policies and technical approaches will increase the overall exchange of health information. The TEFCA will also provide a structure for engaged parties to work together on coordinated, uniform adoption of new technologies and use cases over time.

The ultimate goal of the TEFCA is to enhance provider and consumer access to health information that supports better clinical decision-making, improved outcomes, and lower costs. HINs participating in the TEFCA will play a pivotal role in reaching that goal and will benefit greatly from its achievement.

ONC TEFCA RECOGNIZED COORDINATING ENTITY

Questions & Answers