June 21, 2022

RCE Monthly Informational Call

Mariann Yeager, CEO, The Sequoia Project; RCE Lead
Zoe Barber, Director, Policy, The Sequoia Project
Johnathan Coleman, RCE CISO
Alan Swenson, Executive Director, Carequality
Chantal Worzala, Principal, Alazro Consulting
This program 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 grant number 90AX0026, Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement - Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) Cooperative Agreement Program, in the amount of $2,919,000 with 100 percent funded by ONC/HHS. 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

• How will Exchange Work under TEFCA?
• What are TEFCA Components?
• Timeline to Operationalize TEFCA
• Benefits of TEFCA
• SOP Status & Release Schedule
  » Recently Released SOPs and Resources
• Payment and Health Care Operations Stakeholder Input Process
• Questions & Answers
How will exchange work under TEFCA?

Each QHIN connects Participants, which connect Subparticipants. RCE provides oversight and governing approach for QHINs. Qualified Health Information Networks (QHINs) connect directly to each other to facilitate nationwide interoperability. ONC defines overall policy and certain governance requirements.
TEFCA Components

- Trusted Exchange Framework
- Common Agreement
- Standard Operating Procedures
- QHIN Technical Framework
- QHIN Onboarding
- Metrics
- Governing Approach
Timeline to Operationalize TEFCA

2021
- Public engagement
- Common Agreement Work Group sessions
- RCE and ONC use feedback to finalize TEFCA

Q2 of 2022
- QHINs begin signing Common Agreement and applying for designation

2023
- Establish Governing Council
- Follow change management process to iterate Common Agreement, SOPs, and QTF, including to support FHIR-based exchange

Q1 of 2022
- Publish Common Agreement Version 1
- Publish QHIN Technical Framework (QTF) Version 1 and FHIR Roadmap
- Initiate work to enable FHIR-based exchange
- Public education and engagement

Q3 and Q4 of 2022
- Onboarding of initial QHINs
- Additional QHIN applications processed
- RCE establishes Transitional Council
- RCE begins designating QHINs to share data
- Prepare for TEFCA FHIR exchange pilots
Benefits of TEFCA
GOAL 1
Establish a universal policy and technical floor for nationwide interoperability

GOAL 2
Simplify connectivity for organizations to securely exchange information to improve patient care, enhance the welfare of populations, and generate health care value

GOAL 3
Enable individuals to gather their health care information
Benefits of TEFCA

Relevant, trusted information from nationwide sources for:

**Individuals**
Use an app to access their own records from TEFCA-connected sources located across the nation.

**Providers and Health Systems**
Improve care, coordination and population health by obtaining a more informed picture of care across settings through fewer connection points.

**Public Health**
Improve quality, reduce costs, and expand public health interoperability.

**Payers**
Get and share data needed for care management, value-based care, payer-to-payer exchange, etc.

**Health Information Networks**
Enhance the value of network participation and lower the cost of connecting with other networks.

**Technology Developers**
Provide a scalable policy and technical ecosystem for innovation.

**Researchers (Future)**
Improve quality, reduce costs, and expand participation in clinical research.

For more detail on the benefits of TEFCA for stakeholders, see factsheets at: https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/tefca-and-rce-resources/
SOP Status & Release Schedule
Previously Released

- Advisory Groups
- Conflicts of Interest
- Cyber Security Insurance
- Dispute Resolution Governing Council
- Transitional Council
- QHIN Security Requirements for the Protection of TEFCA Information SOP
- Draft QHIN Onboarding and Designation
- Draft QHIN Application*
- QHIN Security Requirements for the Protection of TEFCA Information (Rev. 1)
- Draft Types of Entities that Can be a Participant or Subparticipant in TEFCA

Released Today

- Exchange Purposes
- QHIN Fee Schedule, Schedule 1*
- Draft IAS Provider Privacy and Security Notice and Practices (feedback requested)
## TEFCA SOP Release Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOP Name</th>
<th>Expected Publication of Version 1 Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QHIN Security Requirements for the Protection of TI (Update)</td>
<td>Version 1.1 released 5/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Purposes</td>
<td>June 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QHIN Fee Schedule (Schedule 1)</td>
<td>June 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types of Entities That Can Be a Participant or Subparticipant in TEFCA</td>
<td>July 2022 (Draft released 5/16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QHIN Onboarding &amp; Designation (and QHIN Application)</td>
<td>August 2022 (Draft released 5/16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Means to Demonstrate U.S. Ownership and Control of a QHIN</td>
<td>August 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Access Services (IAS) Exchange Purpose Implementation</td>
<td>August 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant and Subparticipant Security</td>
<td>October 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Security Incidents and Reportable Events</td>
<td>End of 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment and Health Care Operations Exchange Purpose Implementation</td>
<td>Early 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Exchange Purpose Implementation</td>
<td>Early 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Benefits Determination Exchange Purpose Implementation</td>
<td>Mid 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspensions Process</td>
<td>2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successor RCE &amp; Transition</td>
<td>2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exchange Purposes
Exchange Purposes SOP

• **Authorized Exchange Purposes**
  » Treatment; Payment; Healthcare Operations; Individual Access Services; Public Health; Government Benefits Determination

• **Required Responses** – Unless an exception applies, QHINs, Participants, and Subparticipants are required to Respond to Requests transmitted via QHIN-to-QHIN Exchange for:
  » Treatment – Required as of publication date of this SOP
  » Individual Access Services – Required six (6) months following publication date of the Individual Access Services Exchange Purpose Implementation SOP

• **Permitted Responses** – QHINs, Participants, and Subparticipants are permitted to Respond to Requests transmitted via QHIN-to-QHIN Exchange for any/all authorized Exchange Purposes

• **Required Support**
  » Each QHIN is required to support all Exchange Purposes
  » Each Participant and Subparticipant is required to support any Exchange Purpose they are required to Respond to and may support any that are permitted.
Schedule 1: QHIN Fee Schedule
• Initial funding for operationalizing exchange via the Connectivity Services is provided by a cooperative agreement with ONC.

• The RCE is tasked under this cooperative agreement with ONC to develop a plan for financial sustainability of QHIN-to-QHIN exchange and other activities conducted under the Framework Agreements. Therefore, the RCE does intend to establish QHIN Fees at a future date.

• In establishing QHIN Fees, the RCE will consider its operational costs, the availability of governmental funding, and other relevant market factors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QHIN FEE TYPE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual QHIN Fee</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing Fee (includes 10 hours of RCE testing support)</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing Support Fee (for more than 10 hours of RCE testing support)</td>
<td>$180 / Hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• This SOP details the requirements and standards for IAS Providers to follow in implementing a Privacy and Security Notice.

• This includes both requirements regarding the content of a Privacy and Security Notice and the required corresponding practices of an IAS Provider related to those notice requirements.

• Requirements that fall under the IAS Implementation SOP, which is focused on identity proofing requirements, are out of scope for this SOP.

Feedback Deadline July 21, 2022
Payment & Health Care Operations
Stakeholder Input Process
Payment & Health Care Operations Input Process

Charge
• Collect stakeholder input to inform the first version of the P&HCO Exchange Purpose Implementation SOP to be published by early 2023.

Priorities for Use Case Selection
• High benefit, high burden
• Strong likelihood of voluntary adoption

Initial Use Case
• Risk adjustment
• Others, as determined by input process and time

Use Case Description
• Risk adjustment is the method used to adjust bidding and payment to health plans based on demographics (i.e., age and sex) as well as actual health status of a plan’s enrollees

Educational Resources

Resources

- Common Agreement v. 1
- QHIN Technical Framework
- FHIR® Roadmap for TEFCA
- Standard Operating Procedures
- User’s Guide
- Benefits of TEFCA by Stakeholder Factsheets
- FAQs

https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/tefca-and-rce-resources/

Additional Resources:
https://www.healthit.gov/tefca

All Events and Recordings: https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/community-engagement/

Upcoming Monthly Informational Call
Tuesday, July 19 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET
Questions & Answers

For more information: rce.sequoiaproject.org