



Meeting Notes

Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) Task Force June 26, 2019, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. ET Virtual

Executive Summary

Task force members discussed and considered TEFCA recommendations and identified revisions that will be included in the updated draft of the transmittal letter. The task force was reminded that final recommendations are due July 11, 2019 for presentation to the HITAC. There were no public comments submitted via phone, but there were additional comments in the public meeting chat via Adobe.

Event Summary

- 1:00 p.m. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
- 1:05 p.m. **Review Draft Recommendations**
- 2:20 p.m. **Public Comment**
- 2:30 p.m. **Next Steps and Adjourn**

Roll Call

John Kansky, Co-Chair, Indiana Health Information Exchange
Arien Malec, Co-Chair, Change Healthcare
Noam Arzt, HLN Consulting
Laura Conn, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Cynthia A. Fisher, WaterRev, LLC
Anil Jain, IBM Watson Health
David McCallie, Jr., Individual
Carolyn Peterson, Individual
Mark Savage, UCSF Center for Digital Health Innovation
Grace Terrell, Envision Genomics, Inc
Sheryl Turney, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
Denise Webb, Individual

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Aaron Miri, The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School, and UT Health Austin
Steve L. Ready, Norton Healthcare
Mark Roche, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
Sasha TerMaat, Epic
Andrew Truscott, Accenture

ONC STAFF

Zoe Barber, ONC Staff Lead
Cassandra Hadley, Acting Designated Federal Officer, ONC



Lauren Richie, Branch Chief, Coordination, Designated Federal Officer

Review Draft Recommendations

Proposed enhancements to recommendations 5, 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 10, 11, 12A, and 12B were identified and discussed.

RECOMMENDATION 5

The following revisions were proposed:

- Remove the functional requirements listed in Recommendation 5 and move them into an entirely new section within the transmittal letter.
- Clarify that the Qualified Health Information Network (QHIN) Technical Framework (QTF) is a list of potentially relevant standards but note that they are non-binding.
- Clarify that the Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) should be allowed to choose any technical enablement(s) of the functional requirements within the QHIN Exchange Network.

RECOMMENDATIONS 7A AND 7B

- The discussion focused on the specialization of QHINs. Many members noted the necessity of general purpose QHINs and others favored specialized QHINs, stating that they will promote the importance of the trusted exchange framework (TEF).
- To better illustrate the need for QHIN specialization a visual representation to include Health Record Bank and Public Health use cases will be made and presented to members of the task force.

RECOMMENDATIONS 8A AND 8B

The following revisions were proposed:

- Update recommendation 8A to the following “additional use cases to incorporate must include” rather than “may include.”
- The following revised recommendation 8B was proposed: “The TF recommends that ONC define the individual engagement goals for the TEFCAs to include: access, amendment, PGHD, and data donation. We acknowledge that the system is more ready for Individual Access Services (IAS) and think it is appropriate to get started for IAS. ONC and the RCE should put energy into expanding the use cases.”
- A consensus recommendation will be drafted to include parts of both recommendation 8A and 8B.

RECOMMENDATION 10

The following revisions were proposed:

- Flexibility for public health agencies is contradictory to the strict demands of QHINs, and the expectations should be made more uniform.
- The recommendation should be based on surveillance cases where a public health agency may get electronic health information (EHI).
- Exclude immunization registries from recommendation 10 and articulate the discussion of the topic elsewhere in the letter.

RECOMMENDATION 11

The following revisions were proposed:



- Bullets 1, 2, and 6 reiterate the definition of meaningful choice and are unnecessary.
- Reframe the recommendation to emphasize the most significant bullets.

RECOMMENDATIONS 12A AND 12B

- Discussion surrounded concerns about the inability of implementing recommendation 12B as it conflicts with already written laws. Specifically, it conflicts with the definition of meaningful choice with regard to it being revocable on a prospective basis.
- Task force members were asked to consider which of recommendation 12A or 12B could be deleted and to communicate their preference to either co-chair at their earliest convenience.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAT WINDOW

Laura Conn: I agree it is a specialized QHIN level need.

John Kansky: So is the Direct Trust an example of the "don't disrupt existing HINs" dilemma?

Next Steps and Adjourn

Task force members were reminded that the final transmittal letter will be presented on July 11, 2019. It was suggested that additional task force meetings be scheduled prior to the July 11, 2019 deadline in order to finalize the letter. The decision to add additional meetings will be made at the conclusion of the next TECCA Task Force meeting on July 2, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.