ONC Objectives, Benchmarks, and Measurements

HITAC Meeting, October 21, 2020

Elise Sweeney Anthony, Executive Director, Office of Policy, ONC
Seth Pazinski, Director, Strategic Planning and Coordination Division, ONC
Talisha Searcy, Deputy Director, Technical Strategy and Analysis Division, ONC
21st Century Cures Act Requirement

For the purpose of the HITAC Annual Report, Section 4003 of the 21st Century Cures Act states that:

“...the National Coordinator, in collaboration with the Secretary, shall establish, and update as appropriate, objectives and benchmarks for advancing and measuring the advancement of the priority target areas...”

- ONC sets the objectives and benchmarks used in the development of the HITAC Annual Report
- ONC objectives and benchmarks align with the draft 2020-2025 Federal Health IT Strategic Plan
- ONC is open to feedback from HITAC members about the objectives and benchmarks, in particular how these advance the priority target areas
ONC Objectives in the Draft
2020-2025 Federal Health IT Strategic Plan

Objectives

- Advance the development and use of health IT capabilities
- Establish expectations for data sharing

Goal

Connect Healthcare with Health Data
ONC Activities for Benchmarking Progress

- Standards
- Certification
- Exchange
ONC Standards Activities:
United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) and Standards Version Advancement Process (SVAP)

| FY18-FY20 Accomplishments: |

**USCDI**
- **January 2018**
  Draft USCDI and Proposed Expansion Process released
- **April 2018**
  The HITAC submitted recommendations to the National Coordinator for USCDI v1
- **May 2020**
  USCDI v1 established with the publication of the ONC Cures Act Final Rule
- **December 2019**
  HITAC submitted recommendations on the USCDI Data Element Promotion Model
- **July 2020**
  USCDI ONDEC (ONC New Data Element and Class) Submission System launched for new data element submissions for USCDI v2
- **October 2020**
  USCDI annual comment period closed

**SVAP**
- **November 2019**
  SVAP comment period launched
- **August 2020**
  SVAP comment period closed
- **September 2020**
  SVAP website launched for updating standards and implementation specifications per ONC Cures Act Final Rule
ONC Standards Activities:
Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®)

FY18-FY20 Accomplishments:

- **November 2018**: SMART App Launch Implementation Guide (v1.0.0, STU 1)
- **August 2019**: FHIR Bulk Data Access (Flat FHIR) Implementation Guide (v1.0.0: STU 1)
- **October 2019**: FHIR Release 4.0.1
- **November 2019**: HL7 FHIR US Core Implementation Guide STU 3.1.0
- **August 2020**: HL7 FHIR US Core Implementation Guide STU 3.1.1
**ONC Standards Activities:**
United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI), Standards Version Advancement Process (SVAP), and Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY21-FY22 Milestones:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USCDI</th>
<th>• Update versions of USCDI with additional data classes/data elements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SVAP</td>
<td>• Publish National Coordinator approved updated versions of health IT standards and implementation specifications via SVAP process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHIR</td>
<td>• Release HL7 FHIR R5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Update HL7 US FHIR Core Implementation Guide to align with USCDI updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Collaborate with Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) to Accelerate FHIR API Standards’ Ability to Support Use Cases for Population-Level Query Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Publish FHIR-related guidance on Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise® (IHE) profiles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ONC Standards Activities: Public Health

| FY21-FY22 Milestones: |

**Support Standards Development Organizations**
- Develop FHIR resources to address disease, chronic conditions, and environmental factors
- Develop and update standards and Implementation Guides related to privacy, security, and consent
- Encourage the adoption of FHIR Bulk Data Access (Flat FHIR) Implementation Guide
- Support HL7 US Realm

**Lab Standards**
- Develop COVID-19 and public health related LOINC special use codes that describe laboratory tests ordered and taken
- Standardize the lab test order names to reduce erroneous lab orders and/or results

**Support Health Information Exchange (HIE) Services**
- Build innovative HIE services that benefit public health agencies
- Improve the HIE services available to support communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

**Support Standards for Federal Partners**
- Facilitate testing, final balloting, and real-world deployment of Situational Awareness for Novel Epidemic Response Implementation Guide for use by Federal partners
ONC Certification Activities

FY18-FY20 Accomplishments:

**February 2019**
ONC Cures Act Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) released modifying the ONC Health IT Certification Program, including the 2015 Edition health IT certification criteria.

**May 2020**
Updated the Health IT Feedback and Inquiry Portal for public inquiries on the ONC Cures Act Final Rule, and launched an Information Blocking Portal for the public to report claims of information blocking.

**June 2019**
HITAC ONC Cures Act NPRM recommendations submitted to the National Coordinator.

**March-April 2020**
Conducted public webinars for the Conditions of Certification, 2015 Edition Certification Criteria, and a Conditions and Maintenance of Certification Q&A.

**June 2020**
Published new and revised Certification Companion Guides and Program Resources in addition to other updates to HealthIT.gov and the Certified Health IT Product List (CHPL) due to the ONC Cures Act Final Rule.

**June 2020**
Published Test Procedures, Test Tools, and Test Data for the criteria related to the 2015 Edition Cures Update.

**June 2020**
General effective date started for ONC Cures Act Final Rule, including Cures Update certification criteria.
ONC Certification Activities

FY21-FY22 Milestones:

• Compliance requirements start for several Conditions of Certification, including Information Blocking, Assurances, API, and Communications

• First Real World Testing Plans due

• First Attestations to Conditions and Maintenance of Certification due
ONC Exchange Activities: Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA)

| FY18-FY20 Accomplishments: |

**January 2018**
Trusted Exchange Framework (TEF) and Minimum Required Terms and Conditions (MRTC) Draft 1 released for public comment

**March 2018**
HITAC TEF Draft 1 recommendations submitted to the National Coordinator

**April 2020**
RCE cooperative agreement awarded

**August 2020**
RCE public stakeholder feedback sessions end

**April – July 2020**
RCE Common Agreement (CA) Work Group

**April 2019**
TEFCA and MRTC Draft 2; and Qualified Health Information Network (QHIN) Technical Framework (QTF) Draft 1 released for public comment

**July 2019**
HITAC TEFCA Draft 2 recommendations submitted to the National Coordinator

**September 2019**
RCE public stakeholder feedback sessions begin
ONC Exchange Activities: Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA)

| FY21-FY22 Milestones: |


- Final Trusted Exchange Framework, CA Version 1, and QTF Version 1 Published
Connected Healthcare with Health Data: Priority Target Areas in the Cures Act

Patient Access:
The facilitation of secure access by an individual and their caregiver(s) to such individual’s protected health information

Interoperability:
Achieving a health information technology infrastructure that allows for the electronic access, exchange, and use of health information

Privacy and Security:
The promotion and protection of privacy and security of health information in health IT

In addition to the priority target areas, the HITAC may consider certain additional target areas defined in the 21st Century Cures Act. For example, the HITAC is considering “Use of Technologies that Support Public Health” as an additional target area.
Proposed Measurement Concepts

Intermediate Outcomes

- Increase standardization, completeness, and quality of electronic health information
- Support growth of vibrant health app economy
- Enhance technical capabilities and requirements to make electronic health information readily available
- Simplify and increase the scale of electronic health information exchange

Interoperability Across Stakeholders

Increase Access Exchange, and Use of Electronic Health Information

- Individuals
- Innovators
- Caregivers
- Developers
- Healthcare Providers
- Researchers
- Payers
- Public Health Professionals
Feedback on Measurement Areas

Intermediate outcomes
• Are these the right measurement concepts?
• What is missing that would be valuable to address?
• What should we prioritize?
• What concept is feasible to measure now vs. the longer-term?

Interoperability across the stakeholders
• Should ONC’s measurement focus on access, exchange, and use of electronic health information?
• What stakeholders should we be measuring across?
• Who should be prioritized in the near-term?
• Should we be measuring the same set of outcomes across these stakeholders?

Data collection methods
• What are data sources and methods are available to obtain this information?
Discussion

Phone: 202-690-7151

Health IT Feedback Form: https://healthit.gov/feedback

Twitter: @onc_healthIT

LinkedIn: Search “Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology”

Subscribe to our weekly eblast at healthit.gov for the latest updates!