



Annual Report Workgroup Update

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Annual Report Workgroup Update

- Workgroup Membership
- Meeting Schedules and Next Steps
- Discussion of Draft Crosswalk of Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22
 - Contemporary Topics
 - Recurring Topics



Annual Report Workgroup Membership and ONC Staff

| Member Name | Organization | Role |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Medell Briggs-Malonson | UCLA Health | <i>Co-Chair</i> |
| Aaron Miri | Baptist Health | <i>Co-Chair</i> |
| Jim Jirjis | HCA Healthcare | <i>HITAC Committee Member</i> |
| Steven Lane | Health Gorilla | <i>HITAC Committee Member</i> |
| Eliei Oliveira | Dell Medical School, University of Texas at Austin | <i>HITAC Committee Member</i> |
| Brett Oliver | Baptist Health | <i>HITAC Committee Member</i> |
| ONC Staff Name | Title | Role |
| Micky Tripathi | National Coordinator for Health Information Technology | <i>ONC Leadership</i> |
| Elise Sweeney Anthony | Executive Director, Office of Policy | <i>ONC Leadership</i> |
| Seth Pazinski | Division Director, Strategic Planning & Coordination | <i>ONC Leadership</i> |
| Michael Berry | Branch Chief, Policy Coordination | <i>Designated Federal Officer (DFO)</i> |
| Michelle Murray | Senior Health Policy Analyst | <i>ONC Staff Lead</i> |



Meeting Schedules and Next Steps

Meeting Schedule for the Annual Report Workgroup

| Month | Deliverables to Review |
|-----------------------|--|
| July 28, 2022 | Develop list of topics for FY22 Annual Report |
| August 30, 2022 | Develop crosswalk of topics for FY22 Annual Report |
| September 7, 2022 | Develop crosswalk of topics for FY22 Annual Report |
| October 6, 2022 | Develop crosswalk of topics for FY22 Annual Report |
| November 3, 2022 | Develop crosswalk of topics for FY22 Annual Report |
| December 1, 2022 | Develop draft FY22 Annual Report for HITAC review |
| January-February 2023 | Update draft FY22 Annual Report for HITAC approval |
| February-March 2023 | Ready FY22 Annual Report for transmittal |

Meeting Schedule for the Full Committee



| Meeting Date | Action Items/Deliverables |
|--------------------|---|
| August 17, 2022 | Update on status of FY22 Annual Report development (discuss topic list) |
| September 14, 2022 | Update on status of FY22 Annual Report development (discuss crosswalk) |
| October 13, 2022 | Update on status of FY22 Annual Report development |
| November 10, 2022 | Update on status of FY22 Annual Report development |
| January 2023 | Review draft FY22 Annual Report |
| February 2023 | Approve final FY22 Annual Report |

Annual Report Workgroup Next Steps

- Develop draft report at workgroup meetings
- Present draft report for discussion at HITAC meetings in early 2023





**Discussion of Draft Crosswalk
of Topics for the
HITAC Annual Report for FY22**

Draft Crosswalk of Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

- In preparation for drafting the HITAC Annual Report for FY22, the Annual Report Workgroup developed a crosswalk document that considers gaps, challenges, opportunities, and recommended HITAC activities for a set of key topics across several target areas
- Additional topics will be covered in the landscape analysis for awareness
- The topics are grouped by several target areas defined in the Cures Act:
 1. Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity
 2. Use of Technologies that Support Public Health
 3. Interoperability
 4. Privacy and Security
 5. Patient Access to Information





Contemporary Topics by Target Area

Certain topics are of critical importance this year and will be covered in depth in the HITAC Annual Report for FY22.

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Health Equity by Design | Ongoing efforts promote equity as a core design feature of health IT initiatives. However, many health IT systems and initiatives were not designed with health equity in mind. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Explore ways the ONC Health IT Certification Program can support health equity by design to advance health equity and data justice. 2) Explore the development of metrics to track progress on the inclusion of health equity by design in the ONC Health IT Certification Program. 3) Consider the creation of an Equity Officer at ONC or the recruitment of equity leaders in HITAC to guide these efforts. |
| Inequities in Data Collection | Inequities in data availability and use often stem from inequities in data collection. When it is collected, health equity-related data is often collected inconsistently among and within sources. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Explore the adoption of improved standards for capturing patient demographics, including race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and faith, in a manner that does not over-generalize patients. 2) Hold a listening session to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. identify best practices at registration and other relevant collection points, including through patient portals and apps, to improve the collection and validation of health equity data; and b. explore opportunities to increase the use of data enrichment strategies to bring together multiple data sources to add missing health equity data elements. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Design and Use of Technologies that Advance Health Equity (cont.)

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|--|--|--|
| Electronic Exchange of Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data | The electronic exchange of health equity and SDOH data, even when it is available electronically, remains uneven. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Explore opportunities within HHS to incentivize the standardized exchange of health equity and SDOH data. 2) Explore the opportunity to incentivize the use of vulnerability indices through the ONC Health IT Certification Program. 3) Inventory state reporting requirements for health equity and SDOH data. |
| Bias: Algorithms and Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Tools, and Patient Interview Data | The design of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms raises concerns about implicit biases in machine learning, e.g., regarding gender, race, and ethnicity. CDS tools may also contain implicit biases that impact care decisions or be applied inappropriately. Biases of standardized survey instruments and individuals conducting patient interviews may impact data entered in patient records. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hold a listening session, in collaboration with relevant HHS agencies, focused on developing best practices to prevent unintentional bias in machine learning and address existing algorithms, CDS tools, and patient interview techniques that perpetuate health inequities. 2) Explore the impact of the use of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data elements in AI and CDS to support appropriate clinical care aligned with patients' identities and preferences. 3) Perform a literature review and produce a summary report on the current state, gaps, and opportunities in these areas. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Use of Technologies that Support Public Health*

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|--|---|--|
| Public Health Data Systems – Infrastructure | Coordination and standardization are needed to reduce gaps that impede the sharing of data important to public health. | Learn about the status of federal resources and modernization efforts for public health and identify where these resources and efforts need to be coupled with health IT guidelines to accelerate progress. |
| Public Health Data Reporting – Electronic Case Reporting (eCR) | The rapid expansion and adoption of eCR have enhanced communication between clinicians and public health organizations; however, improvements are still needed. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collaborate with convening groups across federal, state, tribal, local, and territorial governments and healthcare provider and laboratory associations to encourage both adoption and advancement of the technology and standards supporting bidirectional data exchange for public health purposes. 2) Explore requiring the use of ISA-identified standards for bi-directional eCR in the ONC Health IT Certification program. 3) Explore the development of metrics to track progress on the adoption and use of bi-directional eCR by public health organizations, healthcare providers, and laboratories. |
| Public Health Data Reporting – Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) | ELR adoption has increased, but standardization is needed to ensure consistency across systems. | [None identified by Annual Report Workgroup.] |

* Please refer to the report by the Public Health Data Systems Task Force 2022 for specific recommendations in this target area.

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Use of Technologies that Support Public Health* (cont.)

| 1) Topic | 1) Gap | 1) Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|--|---|--|
| 1) Public Health Data Reporting – Syndromic Surveillance | 1) Syndromic surveillance today is often limited to acute care settings. 2) | 1) Encourage ONC to work with the CDC and public health organizations to expand participation in syndromic surveillance to include home healthcare, LTPAC, community-based, and telehealth settings. 2) Hold a listening session from current national data networks that can be leveraged for surveillance (e.g., PCORnet, Civitas for Health). |
| 1) Public Health Informatics Workforce | 1) Challenges remain to establishing and maintaining a well-equipped public health workforce. | 1) Hold a listening session to learn about progress from existing federal initiatives to increase the capacity of the public health workforce. 2) Identify funding pathways that would support public health agencies to hire and retain public health informatics workforce staff to maintain the public health informatics activities identified by ONC, CDC, and other federal agencies. |

* Please refer to the report by the Public Health Data Systems Task Force 2022 for specific recommendations in this target area.

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Interoperability

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|--|--|--|
| Streamlining of Health Information Exchange | While electronic data exchange adoption continues to grow, interoperability between different health IT systems remains a challenge. | Hold a listening session around SDOH data exchange which in some cases are referred to Community Information Exchanges and are intended to support SDOH and health equity efforts. |
| Interoperability Standards Priority Uses – Closed-Loop Referrals | There is a lack of cross-organization support for closed-loop referrals, including for social services. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hold a listening session to learn about existing progress, e.g., with the 360X Project, and determine additional opportunities to advance closed-loop referrals. 2) Identify priority areas to advance data standards adoption across both health and social support sectors (e.g., education, transportation, food insecurity). |
| Use of Telehealth | Unique interoperability considerations exist for the equitable use of telehealth to help reduce the digital divide. | Explore the benefits and challenges of encouraging and incentivizing the equitable adoption and use of certified health IT by telehealth providers to support bi-directional exchange. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Privacy and Security

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|---|--|---|
| Alignment of Innovation and Regulation | Providers and hospital systems are adopting APIs but are concerned about unauthorized data exposure and added liability. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Learn about federal regulatory activities affecting privacy and security for areas of health IT innovation, especially APIs. 2) Support awareness and education for providers, patients, and others about relevant federal regulatory activities. 3) Support the development of guidelines that assist provider organizations in more efficiently resolving concerns around data access. |
| Alignment of Innovation and Regulation – Consent Directives | The pace of industry innovation is sometimes faster than that of the regulatory environment for consent directives. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Explore lessons learned from the implementation of consent in the TEFCA program. 2) Hold listening sessions to learn about different methodologies and strategies under development and being adopted nationally for distributed and/or centralized consent management. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Privacy and Security (cont.)

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Appropriate Exchange and Use of Data | Complying with the HIPAA minimum necessary standard is difficult without improved electronic data segmentation capabilities. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Track work underway in TEFCA to adopt use cases that support the exchange of data for payment and healthcare operations. 2) Hold a listening session to identify the current state of existing privacy harmonization efforts and best practices to reduce provider burden in tracking the evolving privacy landscape across the nation. |
| Privacy of Sensitive Health Data | There is a lack of standards supporting the segmentation of sensitive health data, including for women, pediatric, and gender-diverse populations. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Encourage ONC to provide guidance on the applicability of information blocking exceptions to the exchange of sensitive data, including reproductive health data. 2) Suggest steps toward a consistent technical and operational approach to protecting sensitive health data while enabling its exchange, including with healthcare apps. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Target Area: Patient Access to Information

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|---|--|---|
| Patient Consolidation of Health Information from Multiple Sources | Challenges persist in patients' ability to access, consolidate, and share their health information across multiple sources (e.g., portals, labs, payers, and other health IT systems), and consolidate their data into a single system providing integrated data view and utilization. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Propose a plan to monitor and assess the successes and challenges with the implementation of the 2015 Edition Cures Update API criteria. 2) Explore opportunities (e.g., HHS challenges) to support the development of apps targeted to the unique needs of underserved communities. 3) Hold listening sessions on initiatives that have attempted solutions on this front, e.g., Blue Button 2.0 and the HL7 Carin Accelerator. |



Recurring Topics by Target Area

Certain important topics arise year after year and therefore may be covered in less depth than the more contemporary topics in the HITAC Annual Report for FY22.

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Recurring Topics: Interoperability

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|---|--|--|
| Interoperability Standards Priority Uses – ePrior Authorization | There is a lack of common standards to support prior authorization across payers. | Continue to monitor implementation of existing HITAC eprior authorization recommendations, including updates from industry and on related HHS initiatives such as the ONC and CMS rules. |
| Directory Standards and Management | Industry partners struggle to find the digital contact information for healthcare providers for health information exchange. | Explore opportunities and challenges to supporting the adoption of directory standards and management approaches that support complete, accurate, and usable electronic endpoint directories. |
| Standards for Patient Matching | Patient matching when sharing data needs to be improved, especially for vulnerable populations. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Hold a listening session with relevant federal agencies (e.g., NIST, DHS, and DoD) to identify best practices to improve patient matching in varying patient populations. 2) Explore other industries' experiences with linking de-identified data as well as healthcare-specific efforts. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Recurring Topics: Privacy and Security

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|---|--|---|
| Cybersecurity Events across the Healthcare Infrastructure | Cybersecurity events continue to increase. | Hold a listening session to explore and amplify existing federal and industry initiatives to improve healthcare cybersecurity, such as cybersecurity insurance. The session should include best practices and how healthcare organizations can partner with both government and industry. |

Key Topics for the HITAC Annual Report for FY22

Recurring Topics: Patient Access to Information

| Topic | Gap | Recommended HITAC Activities (Proposed) |
|--|--|---|
| Electronic Patient-Reported Health Record Corrections and Amendments | Transparency about the accuracy of patient data and consent to share it are lacking for patients, which in turn affects patient safety. | Hold a listening session to better understand the challenges and inform future standards for electronic patient-reported health record corrections and amendments, including patients' and organizations' views. |
| Patient-Generated Health Data | The use of PGHD may present liability concerns if inaccurate PGHD are used in clinical decisions or if the clinician chooses not to act based on the PGHD received. | Hold a listening session to assess progress on integration of PGHD in electronic health records and clinical decisions and identify remaining barriers. |
| Safety and Impact of Mobile Health Apps | The use of apps that are built without using sound clinical knowledge can produce incorrect conclusions or readings that can impact patient safety. There is a lack of meaningful analyses of mobile health app efficacy as well as guidance on data security for clinicians and patients. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Explore the ecosystem of vetting the efficacy and security of mobile health apps, including recent industry research and federal regulatory efforts. 2) Consider the increasing use of digital therapeutics or "digiceuticals" in clinical treatment. |
| Price/Cost Transparency | Low compliance among hospitals with price/cost transparency rules, as well as non-user-friendly methods of sharing complex data, hinder patient access and use of price-related information. | Hold a listening session to learn about best practices for implementing price/cost transparency rules that enhance patients' experience accessing this data. |



Thank you!