



carequality

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Carequality Monthly Information Call

April 28, 2016

Agenda

- Carequality Intro
- Participation Opportunity – Patient Authorization Workgroups
- Initial Rollout Update
- 2016 Projects



Carequality Overview

What is Carequality?

Carequality creates a standardized, national-level interoperability framework to link all data sharing networks



Carequality is creating a web of interconnected networks

What is a Data Sharing Network?



Any organization that can bring significant sources of data to the table

- HIEs and other traditional networks
- EHR vendors
- Payers
- PHRs and other consumer-facing applications
- Lab networks
- Undoubtedly others

Participation Opportunity – Patient Authorization Workgroups

Background

- In many cases, healthcare providers can release a patient's records without specific permission
- Special authorization is needed in some cases, however
 - States with laws that are more restrictive than HIPAA
 - Patients seen in alcohol or drug treatment facilities (42 CFR Part 2)
 - Patients hitting specific state requirements for “sensitive data” (e.g. behavioral health or HIV records)
- Today, Carequality provides no way to indicate:
 - That records could be released, if authorization were obtained
 - That the requester has, in fact, obtained authorization
- We are convening two workgroups to address this need

Technical Workgroup

- Will develop a standard approach to indicate in query responses that authorization is required
- Will develop a standard approach to indicate in a query that the requester has obtained the patient's authorization
- Will develop a technical method for identifying and distributing forms or other mechanisms to be used
- Important scope limitation:
 - Technical mechanisms will convey information on authorization to release “the patient's records” as an all-or-nothing proposition
 - Requesters will not be expected to take different actions with different documents, or different parts of documents, for different users
 - Carequality may adopt a more granular approach in the future, in line with and appropriate to overall industry direction in this area

Policy Workgroup

- Develop policy requirements around the optionality of the patient authorization structure
- Develop an interpretation of the non-discrimination principle as it pertains to authorization
- Develop specific policy requirements for requesters that assert collection of a form (what exactly do they need to have done in order to state that they have the completed form from the patient in hand, what are their responsibilities with respect to providing an actual form upon request, etc.)
- Determine whether consensus can be reached on limiting the scope of the transactions for which patient consent can be required. Specifically, can consent be taken out of scope for the patient discovery transaction?
- Consider alternative assertions to those involving an actual form
- Important scope limitation:
 - The workgroup will NOT address questions of when or if authorization is required; the local autonomy principle leaves this to each Implementer/CC

Interested?

- Send an email to admin@carequality.org
 - Indicate which workgroup you're interested in
 - Briefly describe your qualifications
- [More information is available on the Carequality Wikispaces](#)
- Applications are due **by 5pm PDT TOMORROW, April 29th**

Initial Rollout Update

Reminder from November: Carequality Framework

- The Steering Committee adopted the Carequality Framework at its 11/5 meeting
 - Carequality Connected Agreement
 - Carequality Connection Terms
 - Dispute Resolution Process
 - Query-Based Document Exchange Implementation Guide
- The Framework is now available for production use in the Initial Rollout
- Documents are available for reference on the Carequality Wikispaces:
<http://carequality.wikispaces.com/Carequality+Framework>

Current Carequality Connected Agreement Signees



Current Status

- Four Implementers (Epic, Surescripts, eClinicalWorks, and NextGen) have had their applications accepted for moving to production
- About a dozen Epic clients have production certificates and are ready for live exchange
 - California (Bay Area and LA)
 - Hawaii
 - Connecticut
 - North Carolina
 - Missouri
 - Texas (DFW)
 - Ohio
 - (Many others in process)
- Initial eClinicalWorks site expected in production imminently
- Additional eClinicalWorks and Epic sites, along with significant (multi-regional) go-lives from other Implementers, expected through May and June

Implementer Application Process

- To move into production:
 - Complete Implementer Application review
 - CC Terms approach
 - CC reference check calls
 - Adverse Security Event processes
 - Posting of information handling practices
 - Non-production connectivity validation
 - Specific requirement of Query-Based Document Exchange Use Case
- Once in production, must complete production connectivity validation

2016 Projects

Image Exchange

- Workgroup proposal being developed for discussion with the Advisory Council and Steering Committee in May
- Tentatively targeting June for launching one or more workgroups
- Completing background conversations with some key players
 - Current experience and plans for image exchange
 - Unmet needs and challenges
 - Available standards and technical approaches
- If you have ideas or would like to discuss your experiences as input to a workgroup proposal, email Dave at dcassel@carequality.org

Other Projects

- Directory Services – Collaborating with the Argonaut Project
- Event Notification – Slated to begin work later this year
- Query-Based Document Exchange Enhancements/Fixes
 - A placeholder project that we included in our planning and projections
 - Reserving judgment on whether any project is necessary, pending broader production exchange experience under initial rollout
 - Considering work to better define policies for PHRs/consumer-facing applications within the query ecosystem

Thank You!