



Carequality Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2019 | 1:00pm – 2:30pm ET

<https://www.gotomeet.me/Carequality>

Conference Number: (312)757-3121, passcode: 773758021#

Meeting Participants

Advisory Council Members

- ✓ Brian Clay, UC San Diego
- ✓ Seth Selkow, Kaiser Permanente
- ✓ Sid Thornton, Intermountain Healthcare
- Sandy Chung, Fairfax Pediatric Associates
- Terri Ripley, OrthoVirginia
- ✓ Mike Banfield, CRISP
- ✓ Rim Cothren, CAHIE
- ✓ George Gooch, THSA/HIE Texas
- ✓ Derek Plansky, HealthIE Nevada
- Niko Skievaski, Redox
- Therasa Bell, Kno2
- Brian Yeaman, Coordinated Care Health Network
- Stacy Gill, MIB
- ✓ Peter DeVault, Epic
- ✓ Josh Parker, athenahealth
- Kedar Ganta, GE Healthcare
- ✓ Doc Devore, MatrixCare
- ✓ Navi Gadhiok, eClinicalWorks
- ✓ AJ Peterson, Netsmart
- Dan Werlin, NextGen Healthcare
- (Proxy for) Janine Akers, DataFile Technologies
- Gretchen Bebb, TheraTech Pathways
- ✓ Sagnik Bhattacharya PatientPing
- McLain Causey, Experian Health
- Shannah Koss, LivPact, Inc.

- ✓ David Mendelson, IHE
Matthew Shuler, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
- ✓ James Murray, CVS Health
(Proxy for) Margaret Donahue, Veteran's Health Administration

Invited Subject Matter Experts and Carequality Support Team

- ✓ Chris Dickerson, Carequality
- ✓ Dave Cassel, Executive Director, Carequality
Dawn Van Dyke, Marketing Director, The Sequoia Project
Didi Davis, Testing Director, The Sequoia Project
- ✓ Eric Heflin, CTO/CIO, The Sequoia Project
Mariann Yeager, CEO, The Sequoia Project
Michael Hodgkins, AMA, Carequality Steering Committee Chair
Steven Lane, Sutter Health, Carequality Steering Committee Vice-Chair
- ✓ Bill Mehegan, Carequality
- ✓ Berdine Roque, Executive Assistant, Carequality

Meeting Summary

Establish Quorum / New Business

Discussion Summary: The meeting was called to order at 1pm ET. Roll call was facilitated to identify the Carequality Advisory Council members present with attendance noted above. The agenda (noted below) was reviewed.

Agenda

- Welcome, Roll Call, Agenda Review
- Administrative Items
- Update on RCE and Impact to Carequality [Inform]
- Update on CCA Amendment Process [Inform]
- Push Notifications – Update and Approach [Inform/Advise]
- Other Project Updates [Inform/Advise]
 - FHIR Workgroups
 - Query-Based Document Exchange Enhancements
- Production Operations Update [Inform]

Decision/Outcome: A quorum was declared, and no new business was raised.

Action/Follow up: N/A

Administrative Items

August Meeting Minutes

Discussion Summary: The minutes for the August 15, 2019 meeting were presented for approval.

Decision/Outcome: There were no questions regarding the minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes and it was seconded; thus, the August 15, 2019 Carequality Advisory Council meeting minutes were approved. There were no abstentions or oppositions.

Action/Follow up: The meeting minutes are considered final and will be archived.

Steering Committee Members

Discussion Summary: Management announced and welcomed seven new Steering Committee members who have seats through September 2021: Steve Bounds, SSA; Dr. David Camitta, CommonSpirit Health; Kedar Ganta, athenahealth; Dr. Michael Hodgkins, AMA; Ryan Howells, CARIN Alliance; Leslie Kelly Hall, Engaging Patient Strategy/Lifewire; and Rob Klootwyk, Epic.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Advisory Council Application Process

Discussion Summary: Management announced that the Advisory Council Application Process is now open. Half of the current Advisory Council members have terms that will expire in December. Those who would like to continue serving on the Council must re-apply. The deadline to submit applications is on Monday, October 14, 2019, and a resume or CV must be attached.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Upcoming Annual Meeting

Discussion Summary: The Annual Carequality Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 5th through Friday, December 6th, 2019, at the Gaylord National Harbor, MD (outside of Washington DC). The meeting agenda and registration will be published soon.

Room reservations are now open: <https://book.passkey.com/event/49917872/owner/54055/home>

For more information: <https://carequality.org/get-involved/events/annual-meeting-19/>

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Update on RCE and Impact to Carequality [Inform]

Discussion Summary: The award of the RCE in ONC's proposed TECCA ecosystem has been given to The Sequoia Project with Carequality as the sub-recipient. The RCE and TECCA ecosystem in general is a relatively parallel concept to Carequality in that both are designed to facilitate exchange capabilities among different networks. There are also differences between the two and the two operations must

remain fairly distinct, The Carequality ecosystem is going to continue with few to no visible or apparent changes. The plan over time is letting the TEFCA ecosystem develop and there are several outcomes to that process. Ideally, the two will converge in a positive way and start to shift operations from the Carequality ecosystem to the TEFCA ecosystem. It is premature to make any predictions, but nothing is fundamentally changing with Carequality with respect to the TEFCA. A real impact from the RCE role and the TEFCA ecosystem is expected that will ultimately lead to a change in Carequality's approach but that remains to be seen. For now, business will continue as usual.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Update on CCA Amendment Process [Inform]

Discussion Summary: The final text of CCA v2.0 was distributed to all signees on Monday, July 25, 2019. The original timeline was for objections to be registered by August 30, 2019, with the proposed version going into effect on September 30, 2019, pending the objection process. Two Implementers raised objections, which largely centered on the timeframe in which CC Terms amendments could go into effect. One other element for one of the Implementers is being addressed with them separately and is not expected to be a fundamental barrier. Upon deliberation, the Steering Committee elected to adopt the proposed CCA and CC Terms amendments, but moved the effective date to Monday, November 4, 2019. Acknowledgement agreements were distributed today for CCA signees to acknowledge their acceptance of the new terms.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Push Notifications – Update and Approach [Inform/Advise]

Technical Workgroup

Discussion Summary: This workgroup continues to take technical approaches to subscriptions and notifications, as well as considering how to align with the Argonaut and Davinci Project, where appropriate.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Policy Workgroup

Discussion Summary: This workgroup continues to focus on reviewing the draft Implementation Guide as a base to maintain a solid concept around a Push Notifications Implementation Guide. There is also continued discussion regarding Notification Trigger Events and Definitions.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Strategic Considerations

Discussion Summary: Widespread support for the Argonaut subscription approach is at least 18 months away, but realistically approximately 36 months away. Other regulatory pressures on development teams, such as information blocking, EHR certification, and CMS requirements, may further delay adoption. The CMS proposed rule includes the requirement to notify care teams at discharge and places the burden to act on those who are discharging. Carequality's proposed model relies on subscriptions, which places the burden to act on those who will receive the notification. The question is if relevant hospitals want to adopt a model that relies on others having subscribed or if they would prefer to control their own destinies. The most recent TEF draft includes a concept called QHIN Message Delivery and the question is if Carequality's work will reasonably align.

Management presented a potential approach to adopt two very distinct phases of work.

Phase One includes no subscriptions using current technology. Notification sources send notifications to those with a need to know, such as the care team for CMS CoP purposes. Leverage widely deployed existing technology, such as XDR Direct, and aligned, if possible, with CMS requirements. The work performed along these lines may also help work around the QHIN Message Delivery specification draft.

Phase two adds support for subscriptions, such as FHIR-based message delivery and should be straightforward if desired. A relatively robust plan would be in place to ensure a reasonable transition path into adding subscriptions.

There was further discussion regarding HL7B2, FHIR, and CCD, as well as where the contact is established and how it's routed to the right person or group.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: Management requested that the Advisory Council members share any additional feedback regarding this topic.

Other Project Updates [Inform/Advise]

FHIR Technical Workgroup Update

Discussion Summary: A draft of the Technical Implementation Guide is available here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iOour1orfMpYS3OL2AU2wajZR XI7p6YWIk5F61TcZ1M/edit>

A Connectathon was held at HL7 in Atlanta on September 14th-15th and highlights were provided to the group. New Participants were registered on site. They were issued API Keys, granted access to the Carequality Connectathon Directory, and they were able to read/write to the Directory. A security/authentication layer was added using a Carequality issued Cert and multiple Participants were able to provide client assertion JWTs to other's servers, receive authentication tokens back, and view the other's FHIR resources. A great breakout session was held involving Carequality Implementers and non-Implementers focused on a Policy discussion. The group discussed the Carequality Policy and Governance framework and its associated Trust, the Carequality issued Cert and the Trust Bundle it's anchored to, and NIST provisioning concerns around Carequality end-users.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

FHIR Policy Workgroup Update

Discussion Summary: A draft of the Policy Implementation Guide is available here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1e-6sjXnze0kIndJZRYQw0sY6LYa8KxIhPc1Ao71OpQ/edit>

This workgroup's weekly meetings consist of working sessions to actively review comments/feedback submitted by the group and making necessary updates to the document. In the process of doing so, the group discovered that the Implementers (and others) that assisted in the creation of this document now have commitments preventing them from participating in this editing phase. The workgroup is concerned that the objections being raised do not involve individuals who participated in the initial discussions. The workgroup is taking steps to loop the 'original' Implementer community (and others) back into these discussions, which will continue for approximately the next month, at which time, the workgroup will determine next steps.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

Query-Based Document Exchange Enhancements

Discussion Summary: A draft redline is being reviewed by the workgroup. The core areas of focus included the creation or update of an operational approach for verifying compliance with any document content requirements; a method to process any accusations of non-compliance from other Implementers, including communications processes to provide awareness of the situation for affected organizations; updates to the Query-Based Document Exchange Implementation Guide based on the recommendations of the Advancing Patient Queries Working Group; and additional policy specifications around patient queries that will facilitate adoption. Additionally, the workgroup was authorized to examine the evaluation of the current required reporting measures to determine if any changes should be made in the form of policy updates and policy updates in support of Operations, Coverage, and potentially Payment queries.

Advisory Council members who would like a copy of the draft redline may contact Chris Dickerson or email admin@carequality.org.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: The draft redline will be shared with the Advisory Council upon receipt of final information they are awaiting.

Production Operations Update [Inform]

Discussion Summary: Management announced that no new signees have joined the Carequality Connected Agreement Signees in the past few months.

The group in production continues to grow and more groups are expected by the end of September. There have been 36M documents per month as of April 2019 with an estimated 330 million clinical documents exchanged since July 2016.

Decision/Outcome: N/A

Action/Follow up: N/A

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm EST.