



**California Health & Human Services Agency
Center for Data Insights and Innovation
Data Exchange Framework Implementation Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Attendance

Implementation Advisory Committee Members in attendance: Norlyn Asprec, David Ford, Aaron Goodale, Lori Hack, Cameron Kaiser, Troy Kaji, Andrew Kiefer, Paul Kimsey, Linnea Koopmans, Matt Lege, DeeAnne McCallin, Amie Miller, Ali Modaresi, Eric Nielson (proxy for Cathy Senderling-McDonald), Jonathan Russell, Cary Sanders, Ryan Stewart, Felix Su, Deann Walters (proxy for Joe Diaz)

Implementation Advisory Committee Staff and Presenters in attendance: Cindy Bero (Manatt Health Strategies), Rim Cothren (Independent HIE Consultant to CDII), Jonah Frohlich (Manatt Health Strategies), Courtney Hansen (CalHHS/CDII), Kevin McAvey (Manatt Health Strategies), Marko Mijic (CalHHS), Juliette Mullin (Manatt Health Strategies), John Ohanian (CalHHS/CDII), Helen Pfister (Manatt Health Strategies), Elaine Scordakis (CalHHS/CDII), Dr. Linette Scott (DHCS), Jocelyn Torrez (CalHHS/CDII)

Public in attendance: approximately 105 public attendees joined this meeting via Zoom video conference or through call-in functionality.

Meeting Notes

Meeting notes elevate points made by presenters, Committee Members, and public commenters during the Data Exchange Framework (DxF) Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting. Notes may be revised to reflect public comment received in advance of the next IAC meeting. Meeting materials, full video recording, transcription, and public comments may be found on the [Data Exchange Framework website](#).

Welcome and Roll Call

John Ohanian, Chief Data Officer, California Health & Human Services, welcomed attendees to the first IAC meeting. John reviewed the meeting agenda and introduced IAC Members via roll call.

Vision and Meeting Objectives

John thanked IAC Members for their engagement in the DxF development process. He reviewed the vision for data exchange in California and shared his reflections on the development of the DxF.

Marko Mijic, Undersecretary, CalHHS, spoke about the foundational blocks of the agency's work, which include the DxF, the health care and human services workforce, and the physical health and human service infrastructure. He discussed the vulnerabilities that the pandemic has both revealed and exacerbated in Californias

health and human services workforce and infrastructure. Marko discussed CalHHS' efforts to improve access to as well as the affordability and quality of health and human services as part of the agency's priority of embedding equity in all aspects of its work. He emphasized the importance of social services to improving health outcomes, aligning with federal efforts, partnership between the public and private sectors, the pandemic as an accelerant of change, and focusing on treating the whole person with integrated care.

IAC Member feedback on the DxF and how it fits within CalHHS' priorities included:

- Support for broadly communicating how CalHHS initiatives are connected under a vision to improve equity and whole person care.
- Support for including human service providers and EHR vendors in DxF implementation.
- Ensuring that the potential impacts on the health care workforce and patients are considered as new programs are implemented.
- Considering strategies to mitigate workforce shortages among rural public health departments and community-based organizations.

John thanked the group for the thoughtful discussion and reviewed the meeting objectives.

Data Exchange Framework Background and Implementation Roadmap

John provided an overview of Assembly Bill 133, the DxF, and the statutory timeline for DxF implementation. He also reviewed the DxF priorities and next steps, requesting IAC Members to provide input on any potentially missing priorities and to provide support in communicating the requirements and implications of the Framework with their networks.

IAC Charter, Expectations and Timeline

Jonah Frohlich, Senior Managing Director, Manatt Health Strategies, summarized the IAC charter, purpose and roles, as well as expectations for IAC Members. Jonah noted that the IAC is an advisory and not a decision-making body, operating by consensus whenever possible and advancing options to CDII for consideration.

IAC Member feedback on the presented timeline and expectations included:

- Request to clarify the timing for implementation of the Health and Human Services (HHS) Data Exchange Board.
- Request that CDII share materials with that IAC as far in advance as possible.

Data Sharing Agreement and Policies and Procedures

Courtney Hansen, Assistant Chief Counsel, Center for Data Insights and Innovation (CDII), provided an overview of the Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) and its Policies and Procedures (P&P). Courtney reviewed the first set of eight published P&Ps, which include:

1. Amendment of DSA
2. Development and Modifications to P&Ps
3. Breach Notification

4. Permitted, Required and Prohibited Purposes
5. Requirement to Exchange Health and Social Services Information (HSSI)
6. Privacy and Security Safeguards
7. Individual Access Services
8. Data Elements to be Exchanged

Courtney reviewed additional P&Ps will be required to support DxF implementation, with the prioritized topics for near-term development including:

1. Information Blocking
2. Monitoring and Auditing
3. Required Transaction Patterns
4. Real-Time Data Exchange
5. Technical Requirements for Exchange
6. Qualified HIO Designation Process

IAC Member feedback on the proposed prioritized P&Ps included:

- Support for the six P&Ps prioritized for near-term development and suggestions to consider prioritizing other P&P topics such as Consent Management and Enforcement. IAC Members also suggested developing a P&P on research uses of data exchanged under the Framework as well as embedding data quality in all P&Ps.
- Suggestion that some P&P topics may need to wait until the HHS Data Exchange Board is established to be developed.
- Requests for additional detail of the contents of the Information Blocking, Qualified HIO Designation Process, and Real-Time Data Exchange P&Ps.
- Requests for clarification of the timeline and process by which the IAC will review and provide input on draft P&Ps.

Qualified Health Information Organization Program

Cindy Bero, Senior Advisor, Manatt Health Strategies, presented an overview of the DxF's Qualified Health Information (QHIO) Program and its goal of making it easier for organizations to identify partners that meet requirements of the DSA and P&Ps. Cindy emphasized that the QHIO program will be designed to align, to the extent possible, with models that already exist in California, such as the California Trusted Exchange Network (CTEN) as well as national models such as Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA), and that the QHIO qualification criteria will be refined as program priorities and market circumstances evolve. Cindy then reviewed the QHIO capability content areas, which include:

- Organizational structure, governance, and status
- Functional capabilities to support data exchange scenarios and standards
- Data privacy and security practices
- Reporting and ongoing program monitoring

IAC Member feedback on the QHIO Program included:

- Support for the content areas and for aligning with existing state and national regulations and models, where possible.
- Suggestions to consider specific criteria and functions under the QHIO content areas such as:
 - HIOs' financial stability and performance standards *under organizational structure, governance, and status*;
 - The role of HIOs to clean and normalize data to ensure data quality and HIOs' participation in CTEN or under *functional capabilities*; and
 - The impact that mergers and acquisitions can have on data privacy under *data privacy and security practices*.
- Suggestion to establish a process and timeline for updating QHIO program criteria.
- Request to clarify the implementation timeline for the QHIO program.

SFY Budget Update and Grant Program

Juliette Mullin, Senior Manager, Manatt Health Strategies, reviewed the DxF Grant Program goals, potential DxF Grant Program domains and timelines, and plans for stakeholder listening sessions as a venue for stakeholder input on program design and grant domain definition. The three potential grant domains include:

- Education Grants
- Technical Assistance (TA) Grants
- HIO Onboarding Grants

IAC Member feedback on the DxF Grant Program included:

- Support for the structure and goals of the DxF Grant Program, especially for prioritizing support for DxF signatories in identifying resource needs and onboarding to QHIOs.
- Requests to consider:
 - Prioritizing DxF Grant Program funding for signatories that are required to begin sharing data under the DxF by January 31, 2024, rather by January 31, 2026.
 - Allowing DxF Grant Funding to be directed towards filling staffing shortages.
- Request for additional detail on:
 - Which signatory groups will be eligible for grant funding and any milestones they will be responsible for meeting.
 - Whether HIO Onboarding Grant funding could be used by organizations to reconfigure their EHRs to connect to HIOs.

Strategy for Digital Identifiers, Participant Registry, and Consent Management

Rim Cothren, Independent HIE Consultant to CDII, summarized the purpose and use case for the Strategy for Digital Identities as well as the path forward for the Strategy and a potential registry of DxF participants and shared consent registry.

IAC Member feedback on the Strategy for Digital Identities, Participant Registry, and Consent Management included:

- Support for establishing a standard naming convention across institutions as part of a statewide person index. This would be a necessary step in establishing a shared consent registry.
- Suggestions to consider developing a trusted provider/vendor index.
- Explore the approach of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) using a technical specification to standardize capturing patient demographics for improved matching.

DxF Communications

John Ohanian emphasized the need for public engagement to realize the vision of the DxF and introduced the “Information is Power” webinar series.

IAC Member feedback on DxF communications included:

- Support for the “Information is Power” webinar series and its role in educating stakeholders about the DxF.
- Suggestion to consider posting webinars and other DxF informational materials from external organizations on the DxF website.

DHCS Data Exchange Efforts

Dr. Linette Scott, Deputy Director and Chief Data Officer, DHCS, provided an update about work being done by DHCS to ensure compliance with CMS’ Interoperability and Patient Access Final Rule, particularly with respect to the Fast Health Interoperability Resources (FHIR) application programming interfaces (APIs) and the United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) standards, and to implement the population health management service as part of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative. She also highlighted the CalAIM’s Behavioral Health Quality Improvement and Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) programs and DHCS’ Equity and Practice Transformation grants, all of which also have the goal of advancing data exchange. Linette noted that DHCS is looking into approaches for consent management for behavioral health and in CalAIM’s Enhanced Care Management program.

IAC Member feedback on DHCS’ Data Exchange efforts included:

- Request for clarification on whether the Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Program will include incentives for county behavioral health departments to participate in the DxF.

Public Comment

John Ohanian opened the meeting to public comment. No members of the public provided comments.

Closing Remarks and Next Steps

John Ohanian reviewed project next steps and noted that the final IAC charter will be posted on the website alongside meeting materials. John noted the following upcoming meetings:

- September 23, 2022, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM for DSA P&P SC Meeting #1
- October 4, 2022, 9:30 to 11:00 AM for DxF Grants Listening Session 1
- October 24, 2022, 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM for DxF Webinar #2
- November 3, 2022, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM for our next IAC meeting

Appendix 1. Data Exchange Framework Implementation Advisory Group Member - Meeting Attendance (Sept 21, 2022)

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Designee For	Present
Asprec	Norlyn	Deputy Director of Policy	County Health Executives Association of California	N/A	Yes
Ford	David	Vice President, Health Information Technology	California Medical Association	N/A	Yes
Goodale	Aaron	Vice President, Health Information Technology	MedPoint Management	N/A	Yes
Hack	Lori	Interim Executive Director	California Association of Health Information Exchanges	N/A	Yes
Kaiser	Cameron	Deputy Public Health Officer	County of San Diego	N/A	Yes
Kaji	Troy	Associate Chief Medical Informatics Officer	Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and Health Centers	N/A	Yes
Kiefer	Andrew	Vice President, State Government Affairs	Blue Shield of California	N/A	Yes
Kimsey	Paul	Deputy Director	California Department of Public Health	N/A	Yes
Koopmans	Linnea	CEO	Local Health Plans of California	N/A	Yes
Legé	Matt	Government Relations Advocate	SEIU California	N/A	Yes
McCallin	DeeAnne	Director of Health Information Technology	California Primary Care Association	N/A	Yes
Miller	Amie	Executive Director	California Primary Care Association	N/A	Yes

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Designee For	Present
Modaressi	Ali	CEO	Los Angeles Network for Enhanced Services	N/A	Yes
Nielson	Eric	Executive Liaison	County Welfare Directors Association	Cathy Senderling-McDonald	Yes
Russell	Jonathan	Chief Strategy and Impact Officer	Bay Area Community Services	N/A	Yes
Sanders	Cary	Senior Policy Director	California Pan-Ethnic Health Network	Kiran Savage-Sangwan	Yes
Savage-Sangwan	Kiran	Executive Director	California Pan-Ethnic Health Network	N/A	No
Senderling-McDonald	Cathy	Executive Director	County Welfare Directors Association	N/A	No
Stewart	Ryan	System Vice President, Data Interoperability and Compliance	CommonSpirit Health	N/A	Yes
Su	Felix	Director, Health Policy	Manifest MedEx	N/A	Yes
Walters	Deann	Director of Clinical Affairs and Quality Improvement	California Association of Health Facilities	Diaz	Yes