

The following newsletter will be sent weekly, and include the latest information on health information technology and the federal stimulus funding.

The newsletter is organized as follows:

- Update
- Word on the Street
- Timeline
- Resources

All old newsletters can be found on the [website](#).

If you have any questions/comments about the content of the newsletter please direct your inquiry to Andie Martinez, Associate Director of Policy at amartinez@cpc.org.

Update

- I. Electronic Health Records and Meaningful Use
- II. Health Information Exchange
- III. Regional Extension Center
- IV. EHR Loan Fund
- V. Workforce
- VI. Telehealth and Broadband
- VII. Privacy and Security

I. **Electronic Health Records and Meaningful Use**

General: In the [August 17 HIT Newsletter](#), the providers who are deemed eligible professionals to receive Medicaid Incentive funding were outlined in the EHR and Meaningful Use section, and dentists are an eligible professional. Manatt Health Solutions has recently released a report entitled "[The Impact of Federal Stimulus Funds on Oral Health Services in California.](#)"

II. **Health Information Exchange**

Federal: The ONC released the FOA for the Health Information Exchange grants to the states. For more information: <http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1336&mode=2&cached=true>. Letters of Intent are due by September 11, 2009.

Additionally, the state released their draft HIT/HIE Strategic Plan. Respondents have until September 15, 2009 to submit comments on the strategic plan.

State: The California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) released the Request for Information (RFI) for Potential HIE Governance Entity on Thursday, August 20. Responses to the RFI are due September 10 and decisions are to be determined September 24. To note, the Governance Entity is prohibited from

operating a HIE.

CPCA: CPCA submitted a response to the RFI. See resources to view the comment letter. Regretfully, the final RFI released did not incorporate the "safety net" related comments suggested by CPCA. The RFI remains nearly identical to the draft version.

CPCA, working with the California Safety Net Coalition, intends to submit comments on the California HIT/HIE Strategic Plan. To see the plan:
<http://www.hie.ca.gov/HIEPlan/tabid/72/Default.aspx>.

III. **Regional Extension Center**

Federal: The ONC released the FOA for the Regional Extension Center grants. For more information:

<http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1335&mode=2&cached=true>. Letters of Intent are due by September 8, 2009. Last Thursday, August 27, 2009 the ONC held a conference call to answer questions.

State: The state, through Jonah Frohlich, Deputy Secretary of HIT, is attempting to coordinate California's efforts around the REC. While the state cannot directly apply for REC funding, it does hope to endorse a proposal to help ensure California is funded. Jonah's consultant, Lynn Barr, is soliciting information from all interested applicants, either as RECs or the Local Extension Centers in attempts to coordinate the application process.

CPCA: Please review the attached Fact Sheet.

IV. **EHR Loan Fund**

No new information at this time.

V. **Workforce**

No new information at this time.

VI. **Telehealth and Broadband**

CORRECTION

The California Telehealth Network submitted grant applications the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for infrastructure (\$37 million) and for Sustainable Adoption (\$18.4), and NOT the to the USDA Rural Utilities Services (RUS) as was written in last week's update.

VII. **Privacy and Security**

General: Webinar- "EHRs: Critical HIPAA, Stark & Anti-kickback Guidance"

Thursday, September 10, 2009 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET

<http://www.phconferences.com/J3/0/2/p2P79Rc/p32ZP8YFi/p0e>

Cost: \$199

Agenda:

Privacy & Security Issues: Do's & Don'ts to Reduce Liability

*Specific strategies to maintain patient privacy

*Critical steps to ensure data integrity

*Guidance on the latest HIPAA regs & your EHR system

Critical Legal Issues: Avoid Legal Liability & Prevent Fines

- * Stark & Anti-Kickback issues vital to ensure compliance
- * Important legal tips for vendor negotiation
- * Interoperability issues to consider with your EHR system
- * Issues surrounding licensing, indemnities & warranties

E-prescribing, Exceptions & Safe Harbor: What You Need to Know

- * What are allowable donations for your EHR system?
 - * Critical functionality necessary for EHR certification
 - * Specific tips for E-prescribing & Safe Harbor compliance
 - * Other legal challenges that continue to impact EHR system use
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Word on the Street

Timeline

2009	Present	CPCA drafting REC concept paper/business plan
	August 20	CHHS releases HIE Governance Entity RFI
	August 20	Regional Extension Center guidelines/RFP released by the Office of the N
	August 21	CPCA HIT Landscape Survey Due
	Week of August 24	Health Information Exchange guidelines/RFP released by the ONC
	August 26	CHHS releases draft Strategic HIT /HIE Plan
	August 26	CHHS releases RFI for organizations seeking to be lead agency on Workfo
	August 27	HIE Advisory Board meeting (state convened)
	September 9	Comments due on draft of California HIT /HIE Strategic Plan
	September 8	Applications for Workforce RFI due
	September 8	REC Letters of Intent due to the ONC
	September 10	HIE Governance Entity RFI responses due (CHHS)

	September 11	HIE Letters of Intent due to the ONC
	September 21	CHHS will choose lead agency for Workforce funds
	September 24	State responds to HIE Gov. Entity RFI applications (CHHS)
	September 24-25	HRSA-funded EHR focused workshop hosted by Redwood Community Health Coalition
	September 29	ONC issues preliminary approval/denial to REC applications
	September 30	State releases HIT Strategic Plan (tentative)
	October 5	Workforce grant due to federal government
	November 3	ONC to solicit full applications from preliminarily approved REC applicants
	December	CMS to release definition of meaningful use (m.u.), comment period to follow
	December	CPCA EHR workgroup to draft comments on m.u. definition
	December	CPCA with California Safety Net Coalition to draft comments on m.u. definition
	December 11	ONC issues first REC award notices
2010	January	Construction on the California Telehealth Network begins
	Early 2010	EHR Loan Fund (likely CHFFA) to make loans available to eligible providers in California
2011	January	Medicaid EHR Incentive Funds available to eligible professionals

Resources (linked on website)

ONC:

- [FOA- Regional Extension Center](#)
- [FOA- Health Information Exchange](#)

State:

- [HIT/HIE Strategic Plan](#)

CHCF:

- [“The Impact of Federal Stimulus Funds on Oral Health Services in California”](#)

CPCA:

- Regional Extension Strategy and FAQ (word document linked on website)

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