Advancing Interoperability for the Public Good

Data Usability Work Group
Update to HL7 EHR WG/Reducing Clinician Burden
August 22, 2022
Agenda

• The Sequoia Project Overview and Timeline
  – How Members Support the Mission
• Introduction to Interoperability Matters Workgroups
  – Process
• Data Usability Workgroup Overview
  – Roadmap
  – Members
  – Website, Meetings, Workgroup Logistics and Overview of Phases
  – Phase 3 Begins: The Draft IG will be published August 30, 2022

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HCA Healthcare

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The Sequoia Project
The Sequoia Project is a trusted, independent advocate for nationwide health information exchange. Supports multiple independent initiatives, each with their own mission, governance, membership and structure.
The Sequoia Project
Overview and Timeline
Evolution of The Sequoia Project

2012
Sequoia Formed (Operated as Healtheway, Inc.)
Steward for eHealth Exchange network formerly known as the NHIN/NwHIN

2014
Rebranded to The Sequoia Project
Launched Carequality

2018
Corporate Restructure Transition to Three Operating Entities
PULSE
RSNA Image Share
Interoperability Matters Launches

2019
Launched Info Blocking Compliance Work Group

2020-22
Expanded Portfolio
Information Blocking
Emergency Preparedness
Data Usability
From Incubation to Independent Organization

eHealth Exchange operates a nationwide public-private health information network

Carequality operates a nationwide interoperability framework to interconnect health information networks
One Connection Exchanges with 95%* Hospitals

Using a hub & spoke architecture, eHealth Exchange participants leverage 1 connection to exchange 11.9 trillion transactions annually within all 50 states.

Type of information shared:
- Clinical documents
- Immunization data
- Electronic case reports
- Radiology Imaging

Purposes for which information shared:
- Treatment
- Care coordination
- Closed loop referrals
- Disability benefits determination
- Public health
4,200+ HOSPITALS

50,000+ CLINICS

4,200+ HOSPITALS

50,000+ CLINICS

600,000+ HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

300M+ DOCUMENTS EXCHANGED MONTHLY

Interoperability MATTERS

Live Implementers & Their Clients

commonwell - Cerner
- Brightree
- Evident
- Greenway Health
- Meditech

Netsmart - Epic - particle
- Redox - Redox
- Health Exchange
- JCMR

eClinicalWorks

SAFE

CRISPR

HealthConnect

RosettaHealth

PointClickCare

surescripts

onehealth

Health Information Exchange

CVS Health

Kno2

Homecare Homebase
- AdvancedMD
- DocuTAP

- MatrixCare
- ImageTrend
- Collective Medical
- Medchart
Current Sequoia Project Initiatives

RSNA Image Share Validation Program is an interoperability testing program to enable seamless sharing of medical images.

Interoperability Matters is a public-private interoperability leadership forum engaging stakeholders through membership and via public forums.
Sequoia was selected as the Recognized Coordinating Entity to work with the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) to implement the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA).
Example Building Blocks for Interoperability

- Digitized health records with usable and quality data
- Standards implemented in health IT systems
- Systems tested and verified to have implemented standards consistently
- Consistent methods for managing patient identities
- Common infrastructure which enables partners to exchange information (e.g. directories)
- Common set of binding expectations for trusted exchange, policy, technical, legal agreements, governance
How Members Support the Mission

• Found Sequoia as non-profit operating for the public good
• Steer the company’s strategic direction
• Identify and prioritize industry-wise challenges role in Interoperability Matters
• Prioritize new Interoperability Matters projects
• Provide leadership on Sequoia board

Sampling of members-led activities:
• Improving Interoperability of C-CDA and Content Testing
• Improving Patient Matching
• Information Blocking Compliance Guidance
• Prioritizing future issues to be addressed by Interoperability Matters process
• Learn more about our initiatives
• Learn more about our members

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Sequoia Member’s Shape Interoperability for the Public Good
Members Continued

- CA Emergency Medical Services Association
- Cureous Innovations
- Hawaii HIE
- Health InfoNet
- Imprado
- Innovaccer
- Lyniate
- Mayo Clinic
- Mednition
- NJII
- Parker Health
- Virginia HIE
Introduction to Interoperability Matters Workgroups
A Public-Private Cooperative Solving Discrete Health Information Exchange Challenges

Interoperability Matters Workgroups

- Information Blocking Compliance Workgroup
- Data Usability Workgroup
- Emergency Preparedness Information Workgroup
Interoperability Matters Process

Identify  Prioritize  Solve
Key Drivers for Interoperability

- Need for usable data
- Value case to participate
- Imperative to exchange
Data Usability
Workgroup Overview
Workgroup Members

223 Organizations

Healthcare Providers: 20%
Health IT Developers: 18%
HIN/HIEs: 13%
Other: 15%
Federal, State, Local Government: 13%

351 Participants

Consumer/Patient: 5%
Health Plan/Payer: 10%
Public Health: 2%
Standards Developer: 4%
Other: 15%

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DATA USABILITY WORKGROUP ROADMAP

**Phase 1: Administration and Prioritization**
- October 2020
  - Workgroup launches
  - Open call for participation
  - Priority work items discussed for scoping on Draft Implementation Guide
  - Input on data usability pain points received, categorized, and prioritized
- March 2021
  - Workgroup votes on priority work items

**Phase 2: Developing Initial Draft**
- April 2021
  - Begin writing Draft Implementation Guide
- June 2021
  - Clinician Workshop gathers feedback from additional vendors and workgroup members

**Phase 3: Public Comment Period/Recommended Next Steps**
- August 30, 2022
  - 45-Day public comment period begins
  - Sequoia Project works with industry partners and leaders to encourage and solicit feedback
- October 14, 2022
  - Public comments due

**Phase 4: Finalizing Implementation Guide**
- December 14, 2022
  - The Sequoia Project Annual Member Meeting
  - Implementation Guide published
  - Continues through January 2023
    - Industry vendor call to action for commitment to implement guidance

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*Iterate for future versions of Implementation Guide*

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**Meeting Schedule**
- Weekly Meetings
- January 2022
- Monthly Meetings
Website, Meeting and Workgroup Logistics

- Register for the Workgroup
- Calendar Downloads
- Meeting Notes

https://sequoiaproject.org/interoperability-matters/data-usability-workgroup/interopmatters@sequoiaproject.org
Phase 2 Implementation Guide Development Process

• Co-chairs and staff have organized and gathered the content for the 7 topic areas developed in phase 1 activities

• Topics will be addressed in priority order
  – Staff will review existing recommendations from Carequality/ Commonwell Joint IG V2
  – Integrate feedback from workgroup members, workshop(s), vendor discussions and Interoperability Matters Advisory and Leadership Councils to the draft IG
  – Review feedback from Data Usability Collaboration space / forum and incorporate as appropriate
    • https://sequoiaproject.org/interoperability-matters/data-usability-workgroup/
  – Go over problem statements from a more technical perspective
  – Document other aspects to be considered for the solution
  – Identify questions that still require clarification for all topics
  – Update the Draft IG for each topic category and use case
    • All comments and feedback were accepted to the draft IG through August 19, 2022 at 5pm EDT
    • https://docs.google.com/document/d/18njbwLEczNMg7gm9LP9btAiNQFtuEIHArXr-IrJN69o/edit
Table of Comments

• Executive Summary
• Statement of Intent
• Sections/Chapters
  – Data Provenance & Traceability of Changes
  – Effective Use of Codes
  – Reducing the Impact of Duplicates
  – Data Integrity, Format and Trust
  – Data Tagging / Searchability
  – Effective Use of Narrative for Usability
Use Cases

- Provider-to-provider health information exchange
- Provider-to-public health agency information exchange
- Healthcare entity-to-consumer information exchange

Section / Chapter Structure

- Problem statement
- Use Cases
- Existing Work
- Guidance
- Future Efforts
Phase 3: Public Comment - Register for Public Webinar

• The Implementation Guide will be published on August 30, 2022 for **45 day** public comment period ending October 14, 2022
• There will be a public webinar held on **August 30, 2022 12pm – 1pm ET**
• To register navigate to the Data Usability Workgroup Webpage here: [https://sequoiaproject.org/interoperability-matters/data-usability-workgroup/](https://sequoiaproject.org/interoperability-matters/data-usability-workgroup/)
• The meeting will be recorded for those that cannot attend
• Outreach to industry partners and organizations
Phase 4: Finalizing Implementation Guide for Publication

• Comments will be disposed as they are received on the monthly workgroup meetings through December 2022
• The Final Version 1 of the Implementation Guide will be published December 14, 2022
• The Implementation Guide will be highlighted at the in-person Sequoia Annual Member Meeting in Washington, DC
  – Grand Hyatt Washington
  – Save the Date and Subscribe for Updates
  – https://sequoiaproject.org/2022-annual-meeting/
Data Usability Work Group

For more information:
www.sequoiaproject.org/interoperability-matters/data-usability-workgroup/

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Convene  Collaborate  Interoperate

Thank You for your support of Interoperability Matters!

https://sequoiaproject.org/about-us/become-a-member/