

eHealth Commission December 2022 News Highlights

Health IT/Broadband-

- **(Policy/Practice Considerations) Forbes, Does Ethical AI Development Rely On the “Algorithmically” Underserved? CHAI’s Mission (11/29/22)-** *This article was featured by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. The article discusses The Coalition for Health AI (CHAI).* [Retrieved at: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/sethioseph/2022/11/29/does-ethical-ai-development-rely-on-the-algorithmically-underserved-chais-mission/?sh=63e83d916785>]
- **(Federal Notice) HHS-ONC HealthITbuzz, OSTP, in Partnership with ONC, Seeks Input on Optimizing Data Capture for Clinical Trials (10/31/22)-** *The blog highlights two Requests for Information (RFIs) issued in late October. One pertains to clinical research infrastructure and emergency clinical trials, and the second pertains to data collection for emergency clinical trials and interoperability pilot—both initiatives resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and calls for improved future readiness and response. In reminder, the public comment period for the RFIs closes December 27th.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.healthit.gov/buzz-blog/health-data/ostp-in-partnership-with-onc-seeks-input-on-optimizing-data-capture-for-clinical-trials>]
- **(Federal Report) HHS-Office of Inspector General (OIG), OEI-02-22-00150, Insights on Telehealth Use and Program Integrity Risks Across Selected Health Care Programs During the Pandemic (11/30/22)-** *HHS-OIG led six federal agencies in the development of this first-of-its-kind report providing information about the nature of telehealth and its uses across selected health care programs, with focus on program integrity and oversight safeguards.* [Retrieved at: <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/OEI-02-22-00150.asp>]
- **(National Survey) AHIP, Survey Says: Voters Want Federal Government to Extend Telehealth Flexibilities (11/29/22)-** *Morning Consult on behalf of AHIP conducted a survey of voters regarding their views of telehealth and wants of the federal government in terms of extending telehealth flexibilities.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.ahip.org/news/articles/survey-says-voters-want-federal-government-to-extend-telehealth-flexibilities>]
- **(Federal Notice/Funding) Federal Communications Commission (FCC) news, FCC Releases New National Broadband Maps (11/18/22)-** *The FCC released the new national broadband maps mid-November, which will inform 2023 broadband funding awards. The news release includes links to the new map and information about challenging the map to correct information.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-releases-new-national-broadband-maps>]
- **(Policy/Practice Recommendations) Benton Institute for Broadband and Society, Pathways to Digital Equity: How Communities Can Reach Their Broadband Goals—and How Philanthropy Can Help (11/7/22)-** *The Benton Institute developed this guidebook to help communities develop broadband infrastructure and digital equity plans with a focus on strategic partnerships with philanthropy.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.benton.org/publications/Pathways>]

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Equity-

- **(Federal Report) HHS-National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Newly released: Vital and Health Statistics Series Report on Health Disparities in Health People 2020 (11/14/22)-** *The NCHS report is the first assessment of health disparities by race and ethnicity across Healthy People 2020 objectives, including progress made towards the elimination of the disparities.* [Retrieved at: https://health.gov/news/202211/newly-released-vital-and-health-statistics-series-report-health-disparities-healthy-people-2020?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery]
- **(Policy/Practice Recommendations and States Highlight) Health Affairs, Improving Health and Well-Being Through Community Care Hubs (11/29/22)-** *HHS contributed to, and has since highlighted, this article, which discusses community care hubs supporting the effective and equitable coordination of health care and social care. The article highlights multiple states and presents opportunities to develop and sustain the community hubs.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/improving-health-and-well-being-through-community-care-hubs>]

- **(Federal Plan) HHS-CMS, The Path Forward: Improving Data to Advance Health Equity Solutions (11/10/22)**- *This blog discusses the plan released by the CMS Office of Minority Health regarding health equity data efforts across CMS programs.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.cms.gov/blog/path-forward-improving-data-advance-health-equity-solutions>]

Medicaid-

- **(National Policy and States Highlight) Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), Section 1115 Waiver Watch: Approvals to Address Health-Related Social Needs (11/15/22)**- *This article provides an overview of the Biden-Harris Administrations efforts to encourage states to propose waivers that expand coverage, reduce health disparities, and/or advance “whole person care”, including SDOH. The article includes some detail about currently approved waivers by state.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/section-1115-waiver-watch-approvals-to-address-health-related-social-needs/>]
- **(National Report) Institute for Medicaid Innovation (IMI), 2022 Annual Medicaid MCO Survey-** *IMI released the results of its 2022 survey of Medicaid managed care organizations in early November. SDOH and access to health information are among the topics covered.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.medicaidinnovation.org/current-initiatives/annual-mmco-survey/>]
- **(State-to-State Policy) KFF news, A Look at Waiting lists for Home and Community-Based Services from 2016 to 2021 (11/28/22)**- *This new release discusses the KFF’s analysis of states’ Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiting lists.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/a-look-at-waiting-lists-for-home-and-community-based-services-from-2016-to-2021/>]

Public Health/Other Health News-

- **(Federal Notice/Policy) HHS-Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) press announcement, HHS Proposes New Protections to Increase Care Coordination and Confidentiality for Patients With Substance Use Challenges (11/28/22)**- *The federal administration released this proposed rule that would improve alignment between the Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Patient Records under 42 CFR part 2 with aspects of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy, Breach Notification, and Enforcement Rules. The public comment period on the proposed rule ends January 31, 2023.* [Retrieved at: https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20221128/hhs-increase-care-coordination-confidentiality-patients-substance-use-challenges?utm_source=SAMHSA&utm_campaign=0738222caa-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_11_28_03_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-0738222caa-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D]
- **(Federal Policy) The White House, FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions to Support Indian Country and Native Communities Ahead of Administration’s Second Tribal Nations Summit (11/29/22)**- *In late November, the White House hosted the second Tribal Nations Summit. The federal administration has announced multiple new actions supporting Tribal Nations, including improved broadband, health, economic development, housing, and education.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/11/30/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-support-indian-country-and-native-communities-ahead-of-the-administrations-second-tribal-nations-summit/>]
- **(Colorado-Mentioned Article) Government Technology, 2022 Analysis Highlights States’ Data-Based Decision-Making (11/2/22)**- *Eight states are featured for their work with data and evidence-informed policymaking.* [Retrieved at: https://www.govtech.com/analytics/2022-analysis-highlights-states-data-based-decision-making?utm_campaign=Newsletter%20-%20GT%20-%20GovTech%20Today&utm_medium=email&_hsmt=232324793&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-91ICRGERCA5WtcsNp2OLXQTRodoDIT84gD7UyRfaxxZWM15FGWQZr6q1OSIWAKvvir3Cq-nKnMuCqcVEbr1y4s4HOiK3Z3X3VhQ6Fyok10feAt-z2RbGTsFK9VRiYt8dNyNI9o&utm_content=232324793&utm_source=hs_email]
- **(Federal Initiative) HHS-Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, The National Healthcare System Action Alliance To Advance Patient Safety (11/14/22)**- *HHS announced this initiative in support of patient safety that will include a partnership with healthcare systems. A learning community will be launched in 2023.* [Retrieved at: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cpi/about/otherwebsites/action-alliance.html>]
- **(Federal Guidance) HHS-SAMHSA, National Guidelines for Child and Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Care (11/10/22)**- *SAMHSA produced these guidelines for the design and development of services to meet children, youth, and families experiencing a behavioral health crisis. A link to additional technical guidance is provided.* [Retrieved at: <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/national-guidelines-child-and-youth-behavioral-health-crisis-care/pep22-01-02-001>]