

## eHealth Commission August 2023 News Highlights

### Health IT-

- **(Article about Federal Standards) Gov CIO, USCDI Version 4 Adds New Data Standards for Health Equity (7/20/23)**- *This article, highlighted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)-Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), discusses the newly released fourth version of the U.S. Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) standard, namely what is new, including a link to the fourth version.* [Retrieved from: <https://governmentciomedia.com/uscdi-version-4-adds-new-data-standards-health-equity>]
  - **(Federal Bulletin) ONC, Issue 2023-2, ONC Health IT Standards Bulletin (7/2023)**- *This bulletin provides background about the USCDI and development of the fourth version.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.healthit.gov/sites/default/files/page/2023-07/Standards\\_Bulletin\\_2023-2.pdf](https://www.healthit.gov/sites/default/files/page/2023-07/Standards_Bulletin_2023-2.pdf)]
- **(Blog Releasing Federal Publication) ONC-Health IT buzz, Six Standards Advance as Part of the SVAP 2023 (7/12/23)**- *This blog showcases ONC's publication of the Approved Standards for 2023. The blog includes background about, and an overview of updates to, the standards as well as links to the 2023 Standards Version Advancement Process (SVAP) Fact Sheet and approved standards resources. The standards support the ONC Health IT Certification Program and afford responsiveness to industry needs.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.healthit.gov/buzz-blog/standards/six-standards-advance-as-part-of-svap-2023>]
- **(Private Telemedicine Report) Doximity, State of Telemedicine Report (2023)**- *As taken from the introduction, the "...report examines the continued adoption of telemedicine, its applications across various specialties and health care services, and its effects on physical well-being, patient access, and continuity of care."* [Retrieved from: [https://press.doximity.com/reports/state-of-telemedicine-report-2023.pdf?utm\\_source=sendgrid&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Newsletters](https://press.doximity.com/reports/state-of-telemedicine-report-2023.pdf?utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletters)]
- **(Issue Brief with States Highlighted) National Governor's Association with RTI International and the U.S. Department of Justice, Leveraging Telehealth for Justice-Involved Populations with Substance Use Disorders: Lessons Learned and Considerations for Governors (6/2023)**- *This brief provides an overview of states' activities to expand the use of telehealth for justice-involved individuals with substance use disorders during the pandemic.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.nga.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/RTI\\_NGA\\_Leveraging\\_Telehealth\\_for\\_Justice\\_Involved\\_Populations\\_With\\_SUDs\\_June\\_2023.pdf](https://www.nga.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/RTI_NGA_Leveraging_Telehealth_for_Justice_Involved_Populations_With_SUDs_June_2023.pdf)]
- **(Federal Press Release) HHS press release, HHS Office of Civil Rights and the Federal Trade Commission Warn Hospital Systems and Telehealth Providers about Privacy and Security Risks from Online Tracking Technologies (7/20/23)**- *The press release summarizes concerns and recent communications about the potential privacy threats posed by online tracking technologies, including a link to HHS' correspondence to providers.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/07/20/hhs-office-civil-rights-federal-trade-commission-warn-hospital-systems-telehealth-providers-privacy-security-risks-online-tracking-technologies.html>]
- **(National Health Record Sharing Article) Computerworld, Medical data sharing: Are we there yet? (7/20/23)**- *This feature, highlighted by ONC, discusses the nation's move toward "ubiquitous electronic health record sharing". The feature provides legal and contextual background leading to a present-day assessment of health information exchanges.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.computerworld.com/article/3702109/medical-data-sharing-electronic-health-record-exchanges.html>]
- **(Best Practice Playbook) Aurrera Health Group, The Future of Sustainable Value-Based Payment: Voluntary Best Practice to Advance Data Sharing (2023)**- *This playbook has been prepared on behalf of multiple national private organizations to inform current and prospective participants in value-based care arrangements, offering best and promising practices to overcome challenges associated with data sharing across health plans, participating practices, and value-based care entities.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.aurrerahealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Voluntary-Best-Practices-to-Advance-Data-Sharing.pdf?utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmi=268486383&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz--mRF2ARxo2x746zs1bJSJq-74KzzErhQm7ZkFQ5Bx6Ja6LnO6W6flcap1epxxJq7LEOHY4S0ki1itYngXc9Z0DBGK-pLU\\_VvGzvQTlrsjvKB7pNgFoOwNK3GSAHlaTB97dOLX&utm\\_content=268486383&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://www.aurrerahealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Voluntary-Best-Practices-to-Advance-Data-Sharing.pdf?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=268486383&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--mRF2ARxo2x746zs1bJSJq-74KzzErhQm7ZkFQ5Bx6Ja6LnO6W6flcap1epxxJq7LEOHY4S0ki1itYngXc9Z0DBGK-pLU_VvGzvQTlrsjvKB7pNgFoOwNK3GSAHlaTB97dOLX&utm_content=268486383&utm_source=hs_email)]
- **(Article on AI Policy) HealthTech, How Does the AI Bill of Rights Impact Healthcare? (7/13/23)**- *The article provides an overview of recent federal initiatives to address concerns about the use of artificial intelligence. The article contains links to related resources and access to related articles.* [Retrieved from: <https://healthtechmagazine.net/article/2023/07/ai-bill-of-rights-impact-on-healthcare-perfcon>]

## **Broadband-**

- **(Industry Playbook with States Highlighted) Fiber Broadband Association with NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association and Cartesian, Broadband Infrastructure Playbook: Implementing BEAD and other Broadband Deployment Programs (7/2023)-** *This industry playbook is designed for states and territories to speed the implementation of the broadband investment made through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58), showcasing best practices from prior broadband initiatives and fostering nationwide consistency.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.ntca.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-07/Broadband%20Infra%20Playbook%20UPDATED%20-%20FOR%20ONLINE%20DISTRO\\_1.pdf?utm\\_source=sendgrid&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Newsletters](https://www.ntca.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-07/Broadband%20Infra%20Playbook%20UPDATED%20-%20FOR%20ONLINE%20DISTRO_1.pdf?utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletters)]
- **(Checklist & Series of Essays) Benton Institute for Broadband and Society (Benton Institute), Visions of Digital Equity (8/1/23)-** *The Benton Institute released its checklist and principles for digital equity, including a series of related essays, as states continue work on their digital equity plans.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.benton.org/publications/visions-digital-equity>]
- **(Zip Code-Based Tool) Benton Institute, The Affordable Connectivity Program Enrollment Performance Tool (released 7/18/23)-** *The Benton Institute updated this tool with data through April 2023. The tool provides zip code-based data about the level of Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) enrollment, predicted level of ACP enrollment, and comparison to the norm.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.benton.org/acp\\_tool?utm\\_source=sendgrid&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Newsletters](https://www.benton.org/acp_tool?utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletters)]

## **Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)/Health Equity-**

- **(Research/Health Policy Article) Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Network, Mapping Health Disparities in 11 High-Income Nations (7/7/23)-** *The Commonwealth Fund funded this study that finds greater urban and rural health disparities in the U.S. in comparison to other countries.* [Retrieved from: [https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2807053?utm\\_campaign=Improving%20Health%20Care%20Quality&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=265469222&hsenc=p2ANqtz-Tfdi21PphI3SMdbKxRUy0efUn6Pqv8L1YPm98vnebCPFN6IuvNPvww4Bpf5mR58qh12wia5ga8SQfH8fwQSI1jPCSue6RGAKsXDXuh8GtyID1agMf\\_xrxz8vYZk0cAjZ8VH0S&utm\\_content=265469222&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2807053?utm_campaign=Improving%20Health%20Care%20Quality&utm_medium=email&hsmi=265469222&hsenc=p2ANqtz-Tfdi21PphI3SMdbKxRUy0efUn6Pqv8L1YPm98vnebCPFN6IuvNPvww4Bpf5mR58qh12wia5ga8SQfH8fwQSI1jPCSue6RGAKsXDXuh8GtyID1agMf_xrxz8vYZk0cAjZ8VH0S&utm_content=265469222&utm_source=hs_email)]
- **(Governance Guide and Fact Sheet) ChangeLab Solutions, Rural Policymaking: Resources to advance rural prosperity & racial equity website (updated 7/2023)-** *ChangeLab Solutions updated its campaign website to include two new policy resources, a guide and fact sheet to advance racial equity in rural communities.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.changelabsolutions.org/product/rural-policy-making?utm\\_source=ChangeLab+Solutions+Active&utm\\_campaign=33470524ff-RuralDev\\_Launch\\_0523\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_-f3bad052cc-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.changelabsolutions.org/product/rural-policy-making?utm_source=ChangeLab+Solutions+Active&utm_campaign=33470524ff-RuralDev_Launch_0523_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-f3bad052cc-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)]
- **(Issue Brief) Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), Overview of Health Coverage and Care for Individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) (7/7/23)-** *This brief includes a look at the LEP population based on an analysis of the 2021 American Community Survey data.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/overview-of-health-coverage-and-care-for-individuals-with-limited-english-proficiency/?utm\\_campaign=KFF-2023-The-Latest&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=265489631&hsenc=p2ANqtz-DsrbC5WpN3Ld4Xh\\_5t1mOkjqE89X-UukwC2pXzywu-xYflrSIJo4O4ecPktUxw-RI-FQI9ZhJQQ53Cw32m2e0OqMYoV3KE2s3l\\_TG-s23szf\\_iuc&utm\\_content=265489631&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/overview-of-health-coverage-and-care-for-individuals-with-limited-english-proficiency/?utm_campaign=KFF-2023-The-Latest&utm_medium=email&hsmi=265489631&hsenc=p2ANqtz-DsrbC5WpN3Ld4Xh_5t1mOkjqE89X-UukwC2pXzywu-xYflrSIJo4O4ecPktUxw-RI-FQI9ZhJQQ53Cw32m2e0OqMYoV3KE2s3l_TG-s23szf_iuc&utm_content=265489631&utm_source=hs_email)]
- **(Federal Review/Analysis) HHS-Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Assessing Equity to Drive Health Care Improvements: Learnings from the CMS Innovation Center (7/2023)-** *CMS conducted a retrospective review and analysis of its Innovation Center's model evaluations from January 2018 through June 2022, identifying means for evaluating health equity-related impacts and gaps.* [Retrieved from: <https://innovation.cms.gov/data-and-reports/2023/assessing-equity-hc-improv-wp>]
- **(Proposed Federal Rule) HHS press release, HHS Issues Proposed Rule to Advance Non-discrimination in Health and Human Services Programs for LGBTQI+ Community (7/11/23)-** *This press release announces the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that, once finalized, would protect people from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in certain statutes, consistent with charges of the federal administration. The press release provides links to resources, including the NPRM. Comments on the NPRM are due by 9/11/23.* [Retrieved from: [https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/07/11/hhs-issues-proposed-rule-advance-non-discrimination-health-human-service-programs-lgbtqi-community.html?utm\\_source=news-releases-email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=july-17-2023](https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/07/11/hhs-issues-proposed-rule-advance-non-discrimination-health-human-service-programs-lgbtqi-community.html?utm_source=news-releases-email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=july-17-2023)]

## **Medicaid/CMS-**

- **(Federal Agency Action Plan) CMS, Medicaid and CHIP Mental Health (MH) and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Action Plan (7/25/23)-** *This bulletin announces the release of the action plan, including links to an overview and the plan. The plan establishes CMS' strategies for treatment and support to enrollees.* [Retrieved from: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCMSMEDICAID/bulletins/3671c99>]
- **(Medicaid Stories) Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), That's Medicaid (released 7/14/23)-** *In honor of the 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Medicaid, RWJF shared these stories of people nationwide who were helped by Medicaid.* [Retrieved from: <https://thatsmedicaid.org/>]
- **(New Federal Test Model) CMS, Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model (7/31/23)-** *CMS announced a new voluntary model that would test supports for people living with dementia and their caregivers, delivering on the Biden-Harris Administration's Executive Order 14095. Letters of interest are being collected through mid-September, with a request for applications expected in the Fall.* [Retrieved from: <https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/guide>]

## **Public Health/Other Health News-**

- **(Task Force Report) National Academy of Social Insurance (Academy), Social Insurance during the Pandemic: Successes, Shortcomings, and Policy Options for the Future (6/2023)-** *This report is the product of the second phase of the Academy's COVID-19 Task Force-Policy Translation Workgroup. The report assesses pre-existing social insurance and related programs and their responsiveness to the pandemic.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.nasi.org/research/covid-19-legislative-response/social-insurance-during-the-pandemic-report/>]
- **(Media Presentation) Associated Press, Climate Connections: A warming planet, pathogens, and diseases (7/18/23)-** *This presentation showcases graphics and data related to climate change's impact on population health, namely the increased likelihood for disease.* [Retrieved from: [https://grist.org/climate-connections-diseases-pathogens/?utm\\_campaign=KHN%3A%20Daily%20Health%20Policy%20Report&utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmt=266924980&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-IHXD\\_otQ0CXzLlajyqIn\\_LOBCr8aq7CVpE8uX-5li4aomj-tgg43oP1upBMZyCthY3qH6iLj-uz-Dp6Cgaqw3DzPHjyHmTpo53udd\\_Itzu26eXXg&utm\\_content=266924980&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://grist.org/climate-connections-diseases-pathogens/?utm_campaign=KHN%3A%20Daily%20Health%20Policy%20Report&utm_medium=email&_hsmt=266924980&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-IHXD_otQ0CXzLlajyqIn_LOBCr8aq7CVpE8uX-5li4aomj-tgg43oP1upBMZyCthY3qH6iLj-uz-Dp6Cgaqw3DzPHjyHmTpo53udd_Itzu26eXXg&utm_content=266924980&utm_source=hs_email)]
- **(Federal Proposed Rule) U.S. Department of Labor news release, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Treasury Announce Proposed Rules to Strengthen Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (7/25/23)-** *The federal administration released this proposed rule to improve access to behavioral health care on par with coverage for medical treatments. The news release includes links to the proposed rule, a joint fact sheet, and related report to Congress. Comments close 10/3/23.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ebsa/ebsa20230725>]
- **(Federal Proposed Rule) U.S. Department of Justice-Civil Rights Division, Fact Sheet: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Accessibility of Web Information and Services of State and Local Government Entities (7/2023)-** *The federal administration has released a proposed rule to improve web and mobile applications access for people with disabilities and clarify how public entities, namely state and local governments, can meet their legal obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act as more services and activities shift online. The rule is scheduled to be published in early August with a 60-day comment period.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.ada.gov/notices/2023/07/20/web-nprm/>]
- **(Legislative Watch) Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), Summary of FY24 Senate LHHS Appropriations Bill (7/27/23) and Summary of FY24 House Appropriations Bill (7/13/23)-** *ASTHO has created these two legislative summaries as the federal appropriations process intensifies closer to the end of the current Federal Fiscal Year on September 30th. The Senate summary provides an update through early August as both chambers are in recess until early September.* [Retrieved from: <https://www.astho.org/advocacy/federal-government-affairs/leg-alerts/2023/summary-fy24-senate-lhhs-appropriations-bill/> (Senate summary); <https://www.astho.org/advocacy/federal-government-affairs/leg-alerts/2023/summary-of-fy24-house-appropriations-bill/> (House summary)]