eHealth Commission June 2023 News Highlights

Health IT-

- **(Federal Agency Blog/Draft Standards) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)-Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), ONC Publishes USCDI+ Quality Data Element List to Support CMS Digital Quality Measurement Modernization Initiative and Overall Quality Reporting (6/2/23)-** *This blog, including helpful links, provides notice and reminder about the agency's recent release of the draft United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI+) Quality Draft Data Elements List. Public comments are due 6/30/23. [Retrieved from: https://www.healthit.gov/buzz-blog/interoperability/onc-publishes-uscdi-quality-data-element-list-to-support-cms-digital-quality-measurement-modernization-initiative-and-overall-quality-reporting]*

- **(Federal Agency Blog) ONC Health IT Buzz, TEFCA Awareness Among Hospitals and Variations Regarding Intent to Participate (5/31/23)-** *In this blog, ONC reviews results of a survey conducted by the American Hospital Association that indicate most hospitals know about the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) and plan to participate. The blog includes links to referenced materials. [Retrieved from: https://www.healthit.gov/buzz-blog/tefca/tefca-awareness-among-hospitals-and-variations-regarding-intent-to-participate]*

- **(Health Care AI Podcast) Tradeoffs, Rooting Out Racial Bias in Health Care AI, Part 2 (6/1/23)-** *ONC highlighted this podcast that discusses the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in health care and efforts to address bias in algorithms. In addition to a recording of the podcast, a transcript is provided. Access to Part I is provided as well. [Retrieved from: https://tradeoffs.org/2023/06/01/artificial-intelligence-ai-racial-bias-2/]*

- **(Federal Committee Meetings) Federal Register, Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) 2023 Schedule of Meetings (5/24/23)-** *The notice provides a listing of HITAC meetings for 2023 and access information. [Retrieved from: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-05-24/pdf/2023-11062.pdf]*

- **(National Public Health Infrastructure Article) Governing, A Post-COVID Push to Fill Health Data Gaps (5/26/23)-** *This brief discusses advocacy for and efforts towards a national health data system following the COVID-19 pandemic. [Retrieved from: https://www.governing.com/health/a-post-covid-push-to-fill-health-data-gaps?utm_campaign=Newsletter%20-%20GOV%20-%20Daily&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=260053525&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_FCjxMb4QrGS4KM_UGwXVbRsixNKpeI7RIKqxSuuFkJYCo2JjUOsTMmT3VF7s-YWEADFVFe39mmrV8bTBJDh5uXZp6YL7FtCNbvLJvKGpS4yYdg0qYj04hplXZy_LHxWQ6r_XW&utm_content=260053525&utm_source=hs_email]*

- **(Federal Agency Interview) Gov CIO, Listen: The ONC Projects Improving Health Information Exchange (5/9/23)-** *This "healthcast" features Micky Tripathi, head of ONC, and includes discussion of TEFCA and the new proposed rule on certification. [Retrieved from: https://governmentciomedia.com/listen-onc-projects-improving-health-information-exchange]*

- **(Federally Supported Research) HHS-National Institute for Health (NIH), Identifying Electronic Health Record Contributions to Diagnostic Error in Ambulatory Settings Through Legal Claims Analysis (4/2023)-** *This qualitative study shows the role of electronic health records (EHR) in the diagnostic process and the potential for EHR issues to underpin diagnostic errors. Full text links are provided. [Retrieved from: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37058308/]*

- **(Federal Policy Update) HHS press release, HHS Fact Sheet: Telehealth Flexibilities and Resources and the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (5/10/23)-** *This fact sheet offers a comprehensive update about telehealth flexibilities following the sunset of the COVID-19 public health emergency, including helpful links to referenced materials. [Retrieved from: https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/05/10/hhs-fact-sheet-telehealth-flexibilities-resources-covid-19-public-health-emergency.html]*

* All sites retrieved 6/8/23.

- **(Federal Project) HHS-Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Optimizing Virtual Care-** *This project afforded funding support to health centers in effort to optimize virtual care, focusing on increased access and improved clinical quality for underserved communities and vulnerable populations. The site offers links to biannual briefs that include early lessons learned and insights from the project, journey maps pertaining to specific patient populations, and telehealth references, among other resources. [Retrieved from: https://bphc.hrsa.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/optimizing-virtual-care#resources]*

Broadband-
- **(Federal Map) Federal Communications Commission, Broadband Funding Map (5/15/23)-** *This federal broadband funding map was last updated mid-May. Summaries by federal agency and location are available through the site. The data range starts as early as 2019 and ends as late as 2033. [Retrieved from: https://fundingmap.fcc.gov/home?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletters&utm_source=sendgrid]*
- **(Federal Map) Federal Communications Commission, National Broadband Map (5/31/23)-** *The map was last updated late May. It displays internet service availability and undergoes regular update. [Retrieved from: https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home]*
- **(Federal Dashboard and Reports) U.S. Department of Commerce-National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) press release, New Dashboard Highlights Coordinated Federal Investments in High-Speed Internet Programs (5/8/23)-** *This press release provides access and overview to a dashboard and two annual reports pertaining to fiscal year 2021 investments in high-speed internet programs in accordance with the ACCESS BROADBAND Act. [Retrieved from: https://ntia.gov/press-release/2023/new-dashboard-highlights-coordinated-federal-investments-high-speed-internet?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletters&utm_source=sendgrid]*

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)/Health Equity-
- **(National Analysis) Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), What is Driving Widening Racial Disparities in Life Expectancy? (5/23/23)-** *The analysis looks at factors that contribute to racial disparities in life expectancy. [Retrieved from: https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/what-is-driving-widening-racial-disparities-in-life-expectancy/?utm_campaign=KFF-2023-Racial-Equity-Health-Policy&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=259487459&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-8D__CmtDRzSmUFdV9VoXNWzq9uhFyLsZ7tNXVxPKnrN1y9Zdh-O6putkxCf2O1qvAhsS1wcbrCmAvyBbFjNADfb5fd5UWbPyY0C1gf2YTZpr3PjSU&utm_content=259487459&utm_source=hs_email]*
- **(Federally Supported Research) NIH news release, NIH-funded study highlights the financial toll of health disparities in the United States (5/16/23)-** *The research provides national and state-level estimates of the financial toll of health disparities by race, ethnicity, and educational level. Colorado is included in estimates. [Retrieved from: https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-funded-study-highlights-financial-toll-health-disparities-united-states]*
- **(National Report) The Urban Institute report, More than One in Five Adults with Limited Public Transit Access Forgo Health Care Because of Transportation Barriers (4/27/23)-** *The Urban Institute used June 2022 data from its Health Reform Monitoring Survey to examine transportation barriers to health care and public transit accessibility. Link to the full report is provided. [Retrieved from: https://www.urban.org/research/publication/more-one-five-adults-limited-public-transit-access-forgo-health-care-because-transportation-barriers?&utm_source=urban_newsletters&utm_campaign=HPC&utm_id=health_and_healthcare]*
- **(Federal Agency Report) U.S. Census Bureau, Persistent Poverty in Counties and Census Tracts (5/2023)-** *This report examines subcounty geographies in effort to expand understanding and analysis of persistent poverty in the United States. [Retrieved from: https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2023/acs/acs-51%20persistent%20poverty.pdf]*

Medicaid-

- **(Federal Guidance) HHS-Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Information Bulletin, Medicaid Enterprise Systems Compliance and Reapproval Process for State Systems with Operational Costs Claimed at the 75 Percent Federal Match Rate (5/24/23)-** *The bulletin provides guidance regarding state compliance with regulatory requirements for the Medicaid Enterprise System (MES) modules and solutions claimed at 75 percent federal match rate for ongoing operational costs. The bulletin includes details about the reapproval process, corrective action plans for noncompliance, and penalties for ongoing noncompliance. The enhanced federal match rate often supports health information technology. [Retrieved from: https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/cib052423.pdf]*

- **(National Article) Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) Health News, As Medicaid Purge Begins, 'Staggering Numbers' of Americans Lose Coverage (6/1/23)-** *Drawing from KFF's analysis of states' data, this article shows not completing paperwork as the leading reason for individuals being disenrolled from Medicaid programming in the early months of the public health emergency's unwinding event. [Retrieved from: https://kffhealthnews.org/news/article/medicaid-unwinding-state-data-coverage-loss/?utm_campaign=KHN%3A%20Daily%20Health%20Policy%20Report&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=26 0714297&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9LhfKGHRyUSt-HI7-xmwaP1YUscCc8bH1BxiTIB8I68DLywWFDs0Hi1ACW5Hw8SFsUJMXRgKvxF6117o7rUvIOzz0Ej3oc2x0p DgdjIUOApZcKZw0&utm_content=260714297&utm_source=hs_email]*

- **(Spotlight of Seven States) National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP), Emerging Respite Care Strategies in Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers for Older Adults, Adults with Physical Disabilities, and their Family Caregivers (5/26/23)-** *NASHP highlights seven states' innovative approaches to administering respite care in Medicaid home and community-based services waiver programs. [Retrieved from: https://nashp.org/emerging-respite-care-strategies-in-medicaid-home-and-community-based-services-waivers-for-older-adults-adults-with-physical-disabilities-and-their-family-caregivers/]*

- **(Research) Health Services Research, State Medicaid and private telemedicine coverage requirements and telemedicine use, 2013-2019 (5/18/23)-** *As taken from the publication, "This study is among the first to examine the association between state Medicaid telemedicine coverage requirements and measures of health care access." The study shows an association between Medicaid telemedicine coverage during 2013-2019 and increases in telemedicine use and health care access. [Retrieved from: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1475-6773.14173?af=R]*

Public Health/Other Health News-

- **(Federal Agency Visualization) HHS-Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Geographic Variation in Inpatient Stays for Five Leading Mental Disorders, 2016-2018 (5/2023)-** *AHRQ provides this visualization of hospitalization rates per 100,000 population for mental disorders 2016-2018, comparing various jurisdictions, including Colorado and substate areas. [Retrieved from: https://www.ahrq.gov/data/hcup/mental-disorders.html]*

- **(Federal Legislative Summary/Analysis) Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), Public Health Implications of Debt Limit Increase (5/31/23)-** *Prior to the passage of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (Pub. L. 118-5), ASTHO compiled a section-by-section summary that remains a resource about the implications and impacts of the enacted legislation. [Retrieved from: https://www.astho.org/advocacy/federal-government-affairs/leg-alerts/2023/public-health-implications-of-debt-limit-increase/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=asthophw&utm_content=LegislativeA lert&utm_term=DebtLimitIncrease]*

- **(Federal Policy/Funding) The White House, Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions to Tackle Nation's Mental Health Crisis (5/18/23)-** *As part of Mental Health Awareness Month, the White House released this fact sheet outlining federal investments and efforts to positively impact mental health. [Retrieved from: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/05/18/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-tackle-nations-mental-health-crisis/]*