



# TEFCA Monthly eHealth Exchange Technical Webinar

## TEFCA Hub Development Updates

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# Agenda

- TEFCA Overview - Reference
- TEFCA Monthly Technical Webinar Series
- Validation Status for the eHealth Exchange Hub
- Individual Access Services Provider (IAS) SAML Simplifications
- Initial eHealth Exchange TEFCA Participants ... Lesson's Learned
- New potential Purpose of Use
- TEFCA Readiness Checklist Updates
- Open Discussion on TEFCA Technical Onboarding with the eHealth Exchange TEFCA Hub
- Q&A
- For More Information (Including Office Hours)

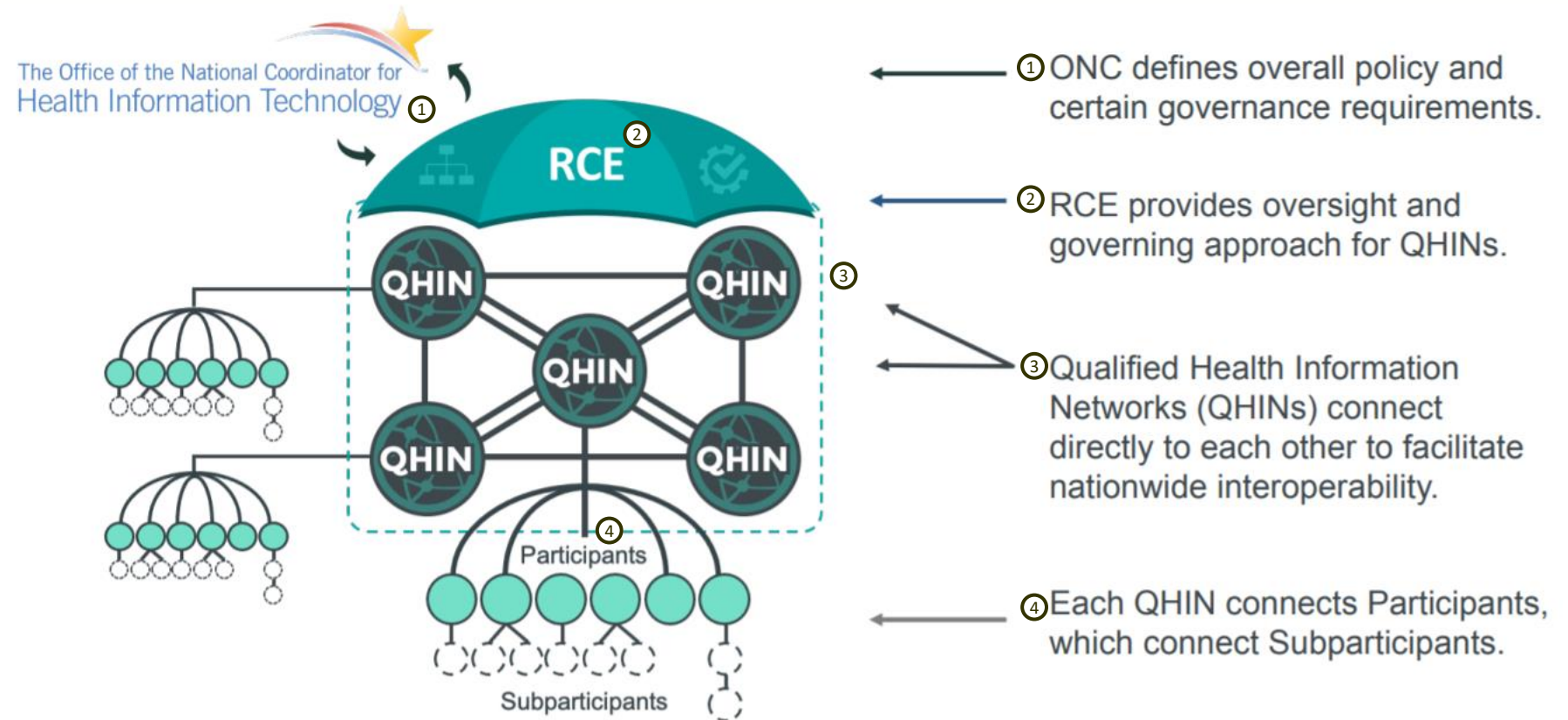


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# TEFCA Overview - Reference

# How will TEFCA Work?



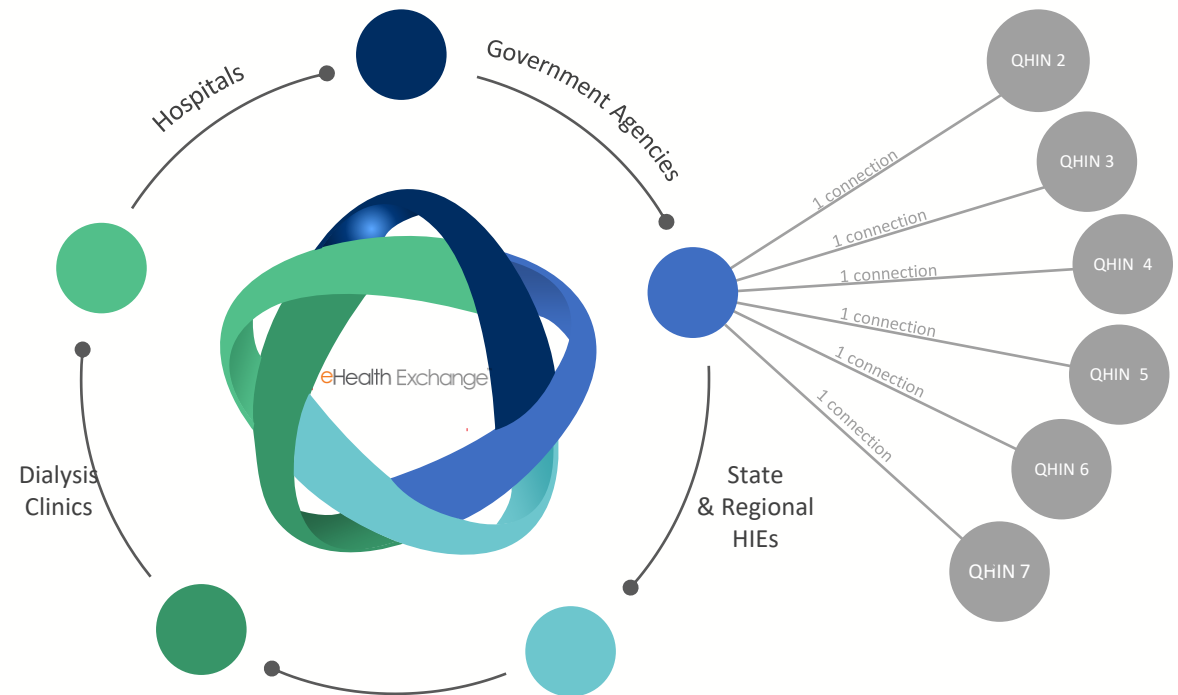
# What is the Trusted Exchange Framework (TEFCA)?

It's a federally endorsed governance framework for **cross-network** exchange of healthcare records.

Similar to Carequality, it's a framework, and not a network:

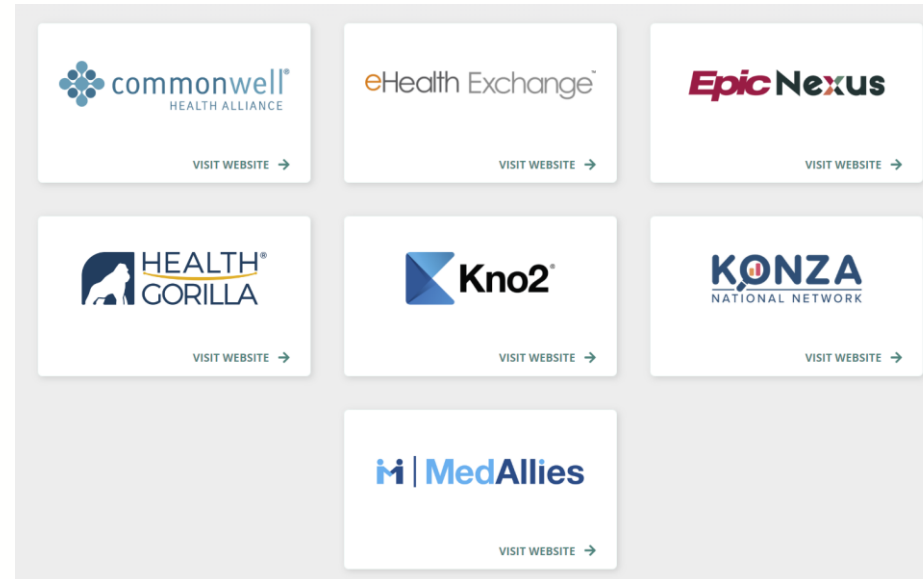
- Technical & policy agreements
- Governing structure
- Federated architecture

Enables healthcare organizations connected to a TEFCA Qualified Health Information Network (QHIN) to exchange patient data with other healthcare organizations connected to other QHINs.



## Which networks plan to exchange via TEFCA?

The HHS announced that the [eHealth Exchange](#) is one of six applicants that have had their applications to become a Qualified Health Information Network (QHIN) approved



It's not yet clear which healthcare organizations will agree to exchange via TEFCA. Will yours?

# eHealth Exchange QHIN: Intent to Participate

- These pioneers represent an intent to participate in the eHealth Exchange candidate QHIN from 10 HIEs across 15 states and Washington, DC:
- AL, AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, GA, IA, IN, MD, NE, TX, VA, and WV





# What's changing?

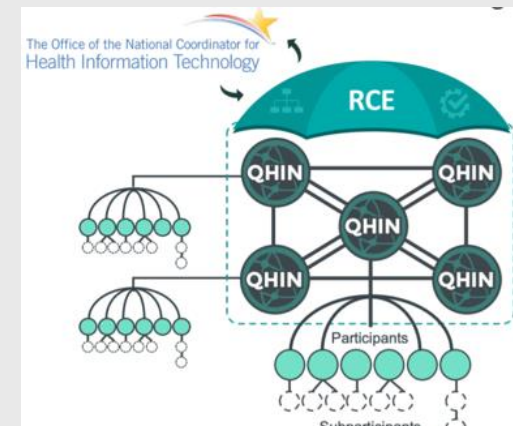
## Prior to eHealth Exchange Connecting with TEFCA

Your organization can exchange with the eHealth Exchange's 320+ health systems, federal agencies, providers and provider collaboratives.



## Once eHealth Exchange Goes Live on TEFCA

**Option** for your organization to **also** exchange with healthcare organizations participating in TEFCA QHINs.





# How is the eHealth Exchange different?

## eHealth Exchange

- ✓ National non-profit focused on the Public Good
- ✓ Single technical connection instead of hundreds
- ✓ Vendor agnostic
- ✓ 24x7x365 monitoring
- ✓ Enforced content quality assurance
- ✓ Analytics dashboard
- ✓ Broad federal agency connectivity
- ✓ Trust (no patient tracking, no selling data)

## Other Networks

- ⚠ Single technical connection instead of hundreds
- ⚠ Vendor agnostic
- ⚠ 24x7x365 monitoring
- 🛑 Mandatory content testing
- ⚠ Analytics portal dashboard
- 🛑 Broad federal agency connectivity

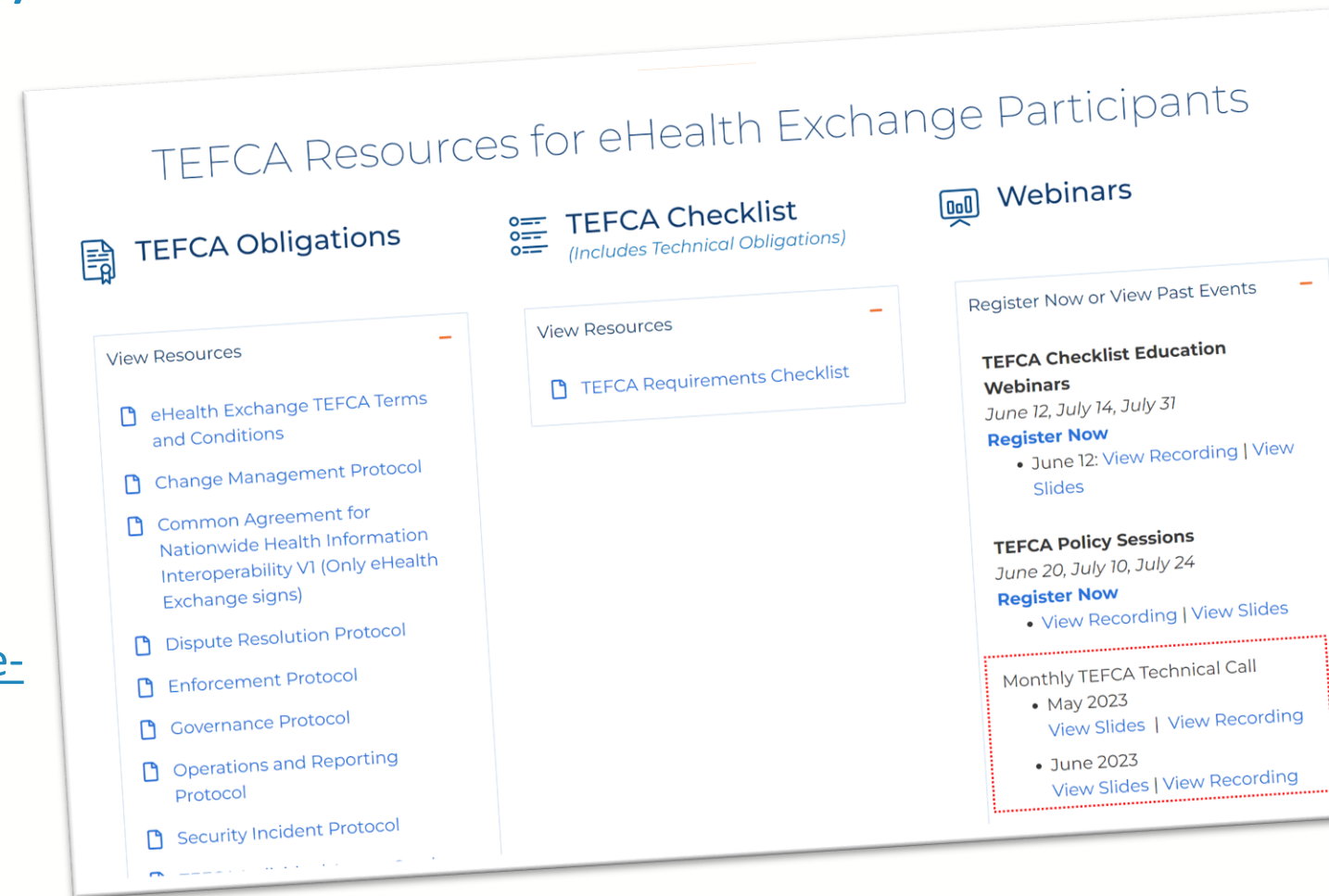
- ✓ Yes
- ⚠ Sometimes
- 🛑 No



# **TEFCA Monthly Technical Webinar Series**

# eHealth Exchange TEFCA Monthly Webinar Series

- Today's webinar is part of a series
- Prior webinars covered:
  - TEFCA Readiness Checklist
  - Individual Access Services Providers
  - Reporting Requirements
  - Error Handling
  - And more
- Prior webinars can be found at:
  - <https://ehealthexchange.org/what-we-do/tefca-and-ehealth-exchange/>





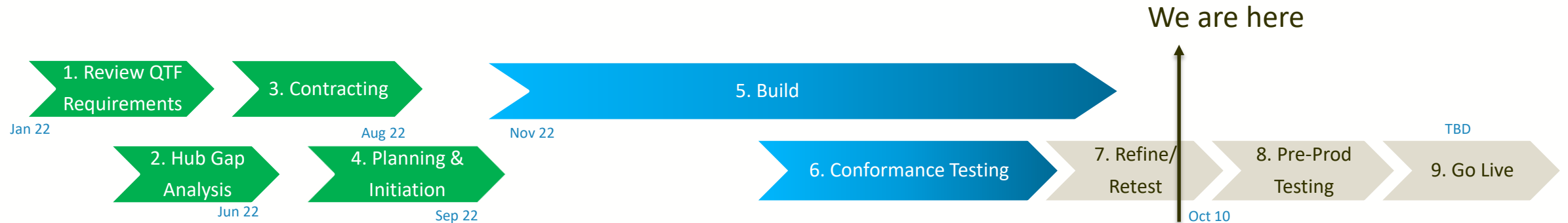
## Conformance Test Status

The Health Exchange continues to perform internal testing with other Candidate QHINs



# TEFCA QHIN Technical Readiness Roadmap

# Technical Readiness for TEFCA



Phase	Accomplishments
1. Thru 4.	QTF review and gap analysis completed. Vendor contracting completed. Project planning and initiation.
5.	<b>Customizations in progress</b> (required to mitigate gaps and flow-down requirements that participants might not be able to accommodate).
6.	<b>In Progress:</b> Continued RCE ITP connectivity testing and configuration  <b>Latest Highlights:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conformance test submission delays due to ATNA extract issues (not that we weren't passing the tests).</li><li>eHx ITP instance was updated to support XCDR and TEFCA POU, which allowed us to complete Message Delivery tests.</li></ul> <b>Next Goal:</b> RCE approval of conformance tests and begin formal pre-prod testing with other Candidate QHINs.

Completed

In Progress

Planned





# Individual Access Services Provider (IAS) SAML Simplifications

- The RCE seems to be considering simplifying IAS
- SAML model is likely simpler
- Direction is not official yet... but we wanted to provide a general awareness
  - **Likely** using OAuth2-based attribute conveyance
  - **May** eliminate the SAML header message “token” concept
  - Full details are not finalized

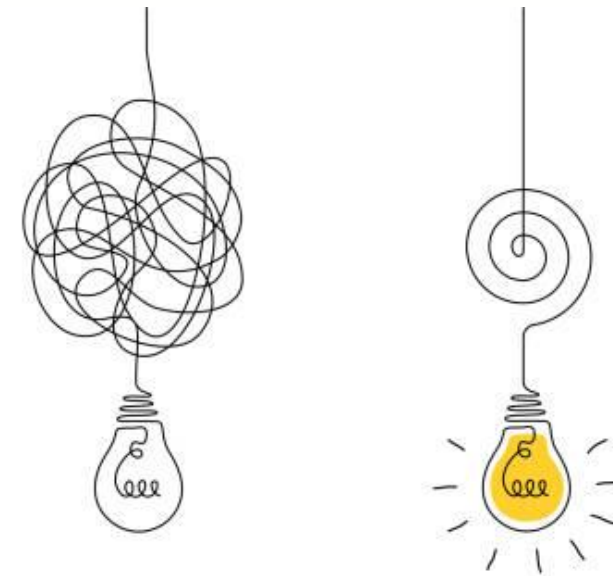


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# Top Issues for eHealth Exchange TEFCA Participants

- Initial issues
  - IAS responses
  - Timelines; seeking to go live in the Dec 2023 timeframe; requires close coordination
  - IAS requirements seem to be changing (not officially published yet)
- Areas we are discussing with other QHINs Participants:
  - New PoU value set – optional Hub transformations
  - ITI-41 v ITI-80 – Hub transformations



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## Other Initial eHealth Exchange TEFCA Participant Lessons

# lessons learned



- HIE's having to include historical addresses - and only for those subparticipants who are signed up for the QHIN. Currently a "golden record" is produced which includes last and best address.
- Project US@ addressing validation
- Ensuring that on-demand document generation only includes those subparticipants who are signed up for the QHIN
- Workflow for clinicians when multiple patient records are returned.

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# A Candidate QHIN has Proposed a New Purpose of Use (PoU) Concept

- Your feedback is requested
- The proposal under consideration would create a new Purpose of Use value such as “TESTING”
- Purpose is to allow for a clear delineation of those messages used for testing purposes
- This is not an existing standards-based value set and it is not based on the NHIN value set
- It would be an addition to the value set maintained by the RCE
- Open Discussion
  - Pros
  - Cons
- Alternative Approaches (eHx Preferences)
  - HTTP header
  - Query string parm
  - Use the Receiver element & customer PoU element



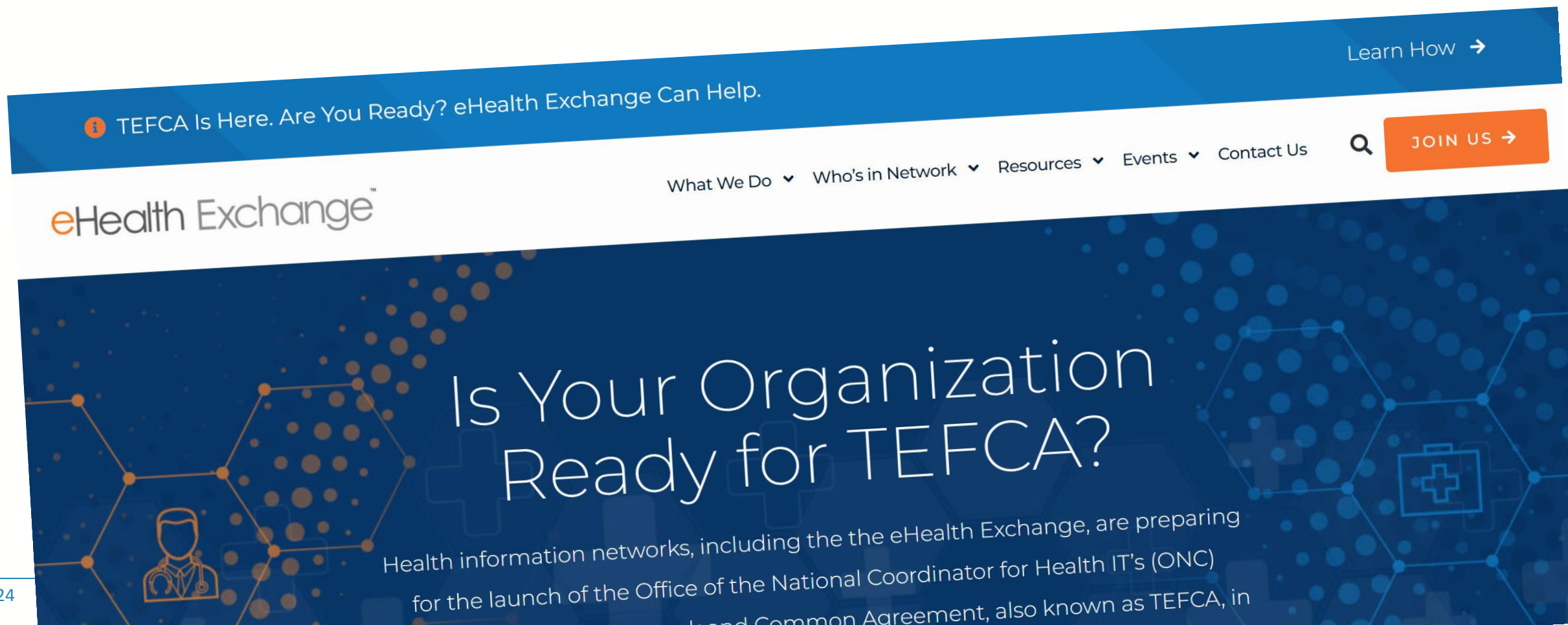
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## For More TEFCA eHealth Exchange Information

- <https://ehealthexchange.org/what-we-do/tefca-and-ehealth-exchange/>



# TEFCA Participant Flow-Down Checklist

- TEFCA Checklist (focus on technical requirements)
  - Purpose of Use clarifications
  - USCDI v1 Optional ITP Content Validation
  - Performance & Service Specifications
  - Data Classes & Elements
  - Technical Messages
  - Directory (Populating & Consuming)
  - Operations
  - Reporting
  - Individual Access Services Providers
- Other Checklist items (not covered today)
  - Testing Requirements
  - Legal Flow-Downs
  - eHealth Exchange TEFCA Protocols



# Readiness Checklist Directory & Reporting

- <https://ehealthexchange.org/what-we-do/tefca-and-ehealth-exchange/>

**eHealth Exchange**

## Readiness Checklist for Connectivity to the Trusted Exchange Framework (TEFCA) via eHealth Exchange (C)

**Overview:** While the eHealth Exchange Hub will address many of the new TEFCA requirements on its Participants' behalf, the requirements below represent Trusted Exchange Framework (TEFCA) requirements for eHealth Exchange Framework via eHealth Exchange must satisfy not only existing eHealth Exchange requirements, but also all of the supplemental TEFCA requirements below. The requirements below may represent a subset of the requirements that will be required for eHealth Exchange Framework via eHealth Exchange.

**This is a living document:** As the Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE) and Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) publish and revise artifacts at <https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/tefca-and-rce-resources/>, this document will be updated to reflect the latest requirements.

**Audience:** Potential eHealth Exchange QHIN Participants seeking to understand the eHealth Exchange QHIN's Participant TEFCA requirements. The reader should have a basic knowledge of eHealth Exchange Framework and the eHealth Exchange QHIN's Participant TEFCA requirements.

**General Operational Concept:** The eHealth Exchange QHIN Hub acts as a bi-directional TEF gateway for eHealth Exchange Participants that don't opt-out of eHealth Exchange TEFCA exchange. The eHealth Exchange QHIN Hub facilitates the flow of TEFCA requirements down to Participants, and their Sub-Participants.

**Terms used** (Also see the References section far below):

- TEF = Trusted Exchange Framework, the structure consisting of QHIN-to-QHIN health data exchanges, established by the TEFCA legal agreement, SOPs, and technical specifications.
- QHIN = Qualified Health Information Network.
- eHealth Exchange QHIN Hub = A unique instance of the eHealth Exchange Hub technology facilitating TEFCA transactions.

ID	Performance & Service Specification Requirements	Additional Considerations *	Citations/Links
			<a href="https://www.healthcare.gov/core-data-integration/">https://www.healthcare.gov/core-data-integration/</a>



## References

- Please see this section of the TEFCA Flowdown Checklist for more details, especially the eHealth Exchange analysis and educational materials for TEFCA Participants:



### References:

eHealth Exchange TEFCA Terms & Conditions, TEFCA educational materials, TEFCA (Draft) procols, etc.  
eHealth Exchange Technical Specifications  
USCDI v1  
Project US@  
IHE ITI Tech Framework v17+  
TEFCA QHIN QTF v1.0  
Concise C-CDA v2.0  
Older IHE ITI Tech Framework v17 cited by the QTF  
ONC RCE TEFCA Resources  
QTF v1  
RCE TEFCA flow down provisions  
RCE Common Agreement  
RCE Individual Access Standard Operating Procedure  
NIST 800-63A Digital Identity Guidelines

<https://ehealthexchange.org/what-we-do/tefca-and-ehealth-e>  
<https://ehealthexchange.org/testing-program/technical-specifi>  
<https://www.healthit.gov/isa/sites/isa/files/2020-10/USCDI-Ve>  
<https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/wiki/download/attachr>  
<https://profiles.ihe.net/ITI/TF/index.html>  
<https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/C>  
<https://carequality.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Improve>  
[https://www.ihe.net/uploadedFiles/Documents/ITI/IHE\\_ITI\\_TF](https://www.ihe.net/uploadedFiles/Documents/ITI/IHE_ITI_TF)  
<https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/tefca-and-rce-resources/>  
<https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/C>  
<https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/summary-of-required-flow-dow>  
<https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/C>  
<https://rce.sequoiaproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/F>  
<https://pages.nist.gov/800-63-3/sp800-63a.html>







## Major Technical Differences eHealth Exchange QHIN Participants Must Support

1. Adopt USDCI v1 data classes and elements
2. Adhere to the Concise Consolidated CDA 1.1 Specification
3. Adhere to Project US@ patient addressing
4. Adopt IHE ITI Technical Framework Revisions 17.0 (versus Revision 8.0)
5. Accept aggregated XCPD responses
6. Various requirements such Purpose Of Use values, different consent attribute structure, sub-participant directory entries and detailed reporting, onboarding log submissions, specific test patients, and quarterly reporting.

## Next Steps

1. Review the published policy documents (not discussed today)
2. Review the TEFCA Readiness Checklist
3. Let the eHealth Exchange staff know of your organization's intentions (if you haven't already)

email: [administrator@ehealthexchange.org](mailto:administrator@ehealthexchange.org)

## How might I obtain additional information?

How	When	Where
1. Visit eHealth Exchange Web Site	Any time	<a href="https://ehealthexchange.org/what-we-do/tefca-and-ehealth-exchange">https://ehealthexchange.org/what-we-do/tefca-and-ehealth-exchange</a>
2. Monthly Participant Web Meetings	Typically, the 3rd Thursday of Each Month at 1 pm ET	<a href="https://ehealthexchange.org/events">https://ehealthexchange.org/events</a>
3. Monthly TEFCA Technical Call	Dates coming soon!	<a href="https://ehealthexchange.org/events">https://ehealthexchange.org/events</a>
4. Email	Any time if you have a specific question	<a href="mailto:administrator@ehealthexchange.org">administrator@ehealthexchange.org</a>
5. TEFCA Office Hours (Q&A)	10/25, 11/29, 12/11, 1/8, 1/24	<a href="mailto:administrator@ehealthexchange.org">administrator@ehealthexchange.org</a>