Oral Health Information Technology Assessment

Clinic site: ________________________________________________________________

Electronic health record (EHR) vendor: _________________________________________

There are two types of health information technology (HIT) tools that assist in oral health integration.

1. User interface changes:
   a. Data entry.
   b. Decision support.

2. Reporting.

To be of maximum utility in this work, the HIT system must be modifiable, and the organization must be willing to authorize and prioritize the work.

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<th>Required features</th>
<th>Technical capability to modify the EHR</th>
<th>Organizational willingness to modify the EHR</th>
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<td>User interface changes:</td>
<td>• Access to programming</td>
<td>• Organizational priority</td>
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<td>• Data entry</td>
<td>• Someone capable of programming changes</td>
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<td>• Alert to care team that oral health assessment is due</td>
<td>• Reporting database</td>
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<td>Population reporting:</td>
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<td>• Clinician/quality improvement (QI) team for report validation</td>
<td>• Collaboration between QI and HIT to ensure report methodology supports population reporting</td>
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<td>• Numerators and denominators by clinician</td>
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<td>• Run charts</td>
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**User interface modification technical requirements**

Can the user interface be modified to accept new data entry fields as structured data?

ASK: Questions Y/N ____________

LOOK: Exam findings Y/N ____________

ACT: Order set Y/N ____________

Is there someone who knows how to program the changes? Y/N ____________
User interface organizational requirements

Is the change authorized? Y/N __________
Is this an organizational priority? Y/N __________
Name of clinician:___________________________________________________
Name of programmer:_______________________________________________

Population reporting technical requirements

Are the clinical data in a reporting database? Y/N __________
Is there query writing software? Y/N __________
Is there someone who can use the software? Y/N __________
Name of query writer: ______________________________________________
Name of clinician: __________________________________________________
Name of QI staff: __________________________________________________

Population reporting organizational requirements

Are the reports authorized? Y/N __________
Is this an organizational priority? Y/N __________

If the HIT system cannot be modified as needed for all of the above functions, it may be necessary to start out with a project of limited scope that focuses on actions that automatically generate structured data such as fluoride varnish in young children or referrals. If the organization cannot commit the resources to report, it may be necessary to find ways to document actions in ways that don’t involve the EHR, such as a standalone registry or sampling.
About the Oral Health Integration in Primary Care Project

Organized, Evidence-Based Care Supplement: Oral Health Integration joins the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative Implementation Guide Series.

The goal of the Oral Health Integration in Primary Care Project was to prepare primary care teams to address oral health and to improve referrals to dentistry through the development and testing of a framework and toolset. The project was administered by Qualis Health and built upon the learnings from 19 field-testing sites in Washington, Oregon, Kansas, Missouri, and Massachusetts, who received implementation support from their primary care association. Organized, Evidence-Based Care Supplement: Oral Health Integration built upon the Oral Health Delivery Framework published in Oral Health: An Essential Component of Primary Care, and was informed by the field-testing sites’ work, experiences, and feedback. Field-testing sites in Kansas, Massachusetts, and Oregon also received technical assistance from their state’s primary care association.

The Oral Health Integration in Primary Care Project was sponsored by the National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health, a consortium of funders and health professionals who share a vision that dental disease can be eradicated, and funded by the DentaQuest Foundation, the REACH Healthcare Foundation, and the Washington Dental Service Foundation.

For more information about the project sponsors and funders, refer to:

- National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health: [www.niioh.org](http://www.niioh.org).
- DentaQuest Foundation: [www.dentaquestfoundation.org](http://www.dentaquestfoundation.org).

The guide has been added to a series published by the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative, which was sponsored by The Commonwealth Fund, supported by local and regional foundations, and administered by Qualis Health in partnership with the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation.

For more information about the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative, refer to [www.safetynetmedicalhome.org](http://www.safetynetmedicalhome.org).