



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Public Health  
**Department No.:** 041  
**For Agenda Of:** July 14, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD, Director  
Director(s) Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Dana Gamble 681-5171  
Assistant Deputy Director, Primary Care & Family Health  
Division

**SUBJECT: Fifth Amendment to OCHIN Master System Agreement**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors consider the following recommendations:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Fifth Amendment to the Master System Agreement with Oregon Community Health Information Network (OCHIN) to replace Exhibit H which updates the patient privacy language in the agreement (Attachment A).
- b) Determine that the proposed action does not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, because the action consists of the creation of a government funding mechanism, or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the Agenda for approval to execute the Fifth Amendment to replace Exhibit H in the original OCHIN agreement. This exhibit is being updated to include new Patient Privacy language required by virtue of OCHIN's participation in an Organized Health Care Arrangement (OCHA), that requires that language be added to the Public Health Department's (PHD) patient privacy notice to explain to the patient the business relationship between OCHIN and their Health Care Provider.

**Background:**

The Agreement with OCHIN was approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 21, 2017. Under the Agreement, OCHIN has provided a combined practice management system and electronic medical record (EMR) system, and professional services. PHD requires OCHIN's continued support to maintain the practice management and EMR system.

OCHIN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit health center-controlled network with over 500 current member organizations. OCHIN members are community health centers including more than 100 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), FQHC look-alikes, rural, and school-based health centers. The advantages of being an OCHIN member include OCHIN's services of a full complement of the assessment, training, implementation, support, clinical oversight, quality improvement, and meaningful use efforts that PHD requires to improve productivity and performance issues. OCHIN optimizes Epic's EHR modules for its members. OCHIN also supports PHD efforts in population health management and patient centered medical homes whereby OCHIN enhances the PHD's secure health information exchange capabilities and web-based patient portals that let patients and doctors communicate easily, safely, and securely over the Internet.

**Performance Measure:**

The OCHIN EMR contains tools and functionality to restrict access to highly sensitive patient care and treatment information (e.g. substance abuse treatment information) and has the ability to document each individual that has accessed the EMR and the information they have viewed.

PHD and the Outside Entities are mutually responsible for maintaining patient protected information from unauthorized access and improper disclosure of this information.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: N/A

**Fiscal Analysis:**

There are no fiscal impacts associated with the replacement of Exhibit H to the Agreement with OCHIN.

**Key Contract Risks:**

OCHIN is a large and successful health information network, serving more than 10,000 providers operating in 47 states.

While a project of this scope does present the potential for risk, our yearlong plan towards implementation and the initial two years post implementation have ensured that the risks are mitigated through OCHIN's experience, our significant testing and utilization of the system and efficient project management. More than 50% of the funding to support this Agreement originates from healthcare reimbursements from Medicare and Medi-Cal which have been stable funding sources.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

0

**FTEs:**

0

**Special Instructions:**

Please execute two (2) original Fifth Amendments to the Agreement with OCHIN and retain one (1) original Amendment and one (1) Minute Order for pick-up by the department. Please email [Kelly.lazarus@sbcphd.org](mailto:Kelly.lazarus@sbcphd.org) when available for pickup.

**Attachments:**

- A. Fifth Amendment to the OCHIN Professional Services Agreement
- B. Fourth Amendment to the OCHIN Professional Services Agreement
- C. Third Amendment to the OCHIN Professional Services Agreement
- D. Second Amendment to the OCHIN Professional Services Agreement
- E. First Amendment to the OCHIN Professional Services Agreement
- F. OCHIN Professional Services Agreement

**Authored by:**

Laura Lui, EHR Manager