

Outreach to EHR Vendors

- **Please contact your EHR vendor to request that they engage with OPA on our IHE Family Planning Technical Profile!**
- **We need a critical mass of grantees, sub recipients, and service sites to make the request in order to create demand for EHR vendor participation.**
- **You do not need to be able to discuss any technical details with your vendors. We need you to get this on their radar and drive them to OPA's doorstep.**

Context

- OPA is currently undertaking a major overhaul of our Family Planning Annual Report (FPAR) data reporting system.
- The new system (FPAR 2.0) will rely heavily on the use of Electronic Health Records.
- OPA is working to create data and exchange standards for FPAR 2.0 that can be applied across multiple EHRs.
- Part of this process is creating a Family Planning Technical Profile. We are currently working within [IHE](#) (Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise), an international standards development organization, to create this profile.

Anticipated Timeline of Requests to Vendors & Experts within Your Organization

Activity	2014 Time Period
Ask vendors & subject matter experts to review Family Planning profile	April – June
Ask vendors & subject matter experts to submit public comments	June
Ask vendors to consider attending and become certified in the Family Planning profile at IHE Connectathon	July – Sept
Ask vendors to attend public engagement activities to learn about OPA's testing platform	July – Sept
Ask vendors to develop their Family Planning form per specifications	Aug – Sept
Ask vendors to collaborate with testing platform to ensure smooth development	Sept – Oct

Action Steps for Grantees, Subrecipients, and Service Sites

1. Use the script on page 2 to **ask your EHR vendor** to:
 - a. Have their senior technical staff **read and review** the Family Planning Technical Profile and **submit comments** between May-June. (Profile will be posted here in May: <http://www.ihe.net/Public Comment/>)
 - b. Participate in OPA's Vendor Engagement Activities starting in August to learn more about how to onboard onto OPA's testing platform
 - c. Starting in September, prepare for and become certified in the Family Planning Profile at IHE's Connectathon in January 2015
 - d. Contact OPA for more details at FPAR2.0@hhs.gov
2. **Email OPA** at FPAR2.0@hhs.gov to let us know that you've reached out to your vendor. Please describe what type of response, if any, you received.

Thank you for your help!

Suggested Script - You can tailor further, as you see fit

As a Title X-funded family planning health care provider and a customer of *insert EHR vendor name here*, I am contacting you to request that your organization partner with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Office of Population Affairs](#) (OPA) in their efforts to create a **Family Planning Technical Profile**, which will establish standards structured data capture of family planning variables that can be applied across multiple EHR systems.

OPA is working with [Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise](#) to create, test and certify the Family Planning Technical Profile.

As a customer, I am requesting that you:

1. Have your technical project managers and lead developers review the **Family Planning Profile** and submit comments during the **public comment period** in **June**. (Profile will be posted in May at http://www.ihe.net/Public_Comment/)
2. Participate in OPA's Vendor Engagement Activities (Aug-Oct) to learn more about how to onboard onto OPA's testing platform. FPAR2.0@hhs.gov
3. Starting in September, prepare for and become certified in the Family Planning Profile at the January 2015 [IHE North America Connectathon](#) that will take place in Cleveland, OH.
 - a. To learn more about the requirements of a Connectathon, please consult the 2014 Technical Support Material at <http://na2014.wustl.edu/>

Please contact OPA at FPAR2.0@hhs.gov if you are willing to learn more about this important initiative. A knowledgeable OPA staff member will be happy to set up a time to speak with you further regarding the details of partnering in this effort and the business case for your organization.

Thank you, sincerely, for your time and consideration.