popHEALTH AND OEMR MEETING SUMMARY 5/16/14

On May 16, 2014, ONC and Audacious Inquiry (Ai) hosted a meeting for the popHealth stakeholder community and OEMR. The goal of the meeting was to introduce OEMR to the popHealth community and answer questions about governance and management of the popHealth tool.

Background on OEMR

- OEMR was started to act as a legal entity for OpenEMR when documents need to be signed, money needs to be raised, advocacy for OpenEMR community, etc.
- OEMR is fairly hands off for developers, and really just assists with the legal and financial aspects of OpenEMR.
- OEMR wants to expand to additional healthcare products and provide any resources necessary to support new products (replicas of code, management assistance, legal hurdles, etc.)
- OEMR has 12 board members who are heavily involved in the development work of OpenEMR.
- OEMR's goal is not to sell a product, but to make EHR products that are better and at a lower cost than existing tools.

Summary from Q&A

- Pophealth would be its own project with its own charter. While there may be some sharing with OpenEMR, it would be its own self-sustaining project.
- OEMR envisions one day having competing products that can share and learn from each other, but compete to be the best.
  - For example, OEMR is taking on the governance for Clear Health, which is also an EHR.
- OEMR's predominant function for OpenEMR is obtaining funding. They have used Kickstarter to raise funds in the past, as well as direct appeals to OpenEMR beneficiaries.
- OEMR has worked with sourcing funds for specific enhancements, typically via a bounty system or Kickstarter. They've used this for both bug fixes and enhancements, particularly when no one has stepped up to take them on.
- OEMR's board is very hands off, but they do help with setting a roadmap for the product.
- The twelve board members represent vendors, users, and developers. Additionally one member handles finances, and one is a lawyer.
- The board keeps an eye on market trends and informs the community of what's coming down the road.
- Most of the funding and code contributions come from the community, funding requests are typically used when the timing of a development is short.

Next Steps

- popHealth community should send any additional questions for OEMR to Genevieve Morris gmorris@ainq.com.
- Meetings with additional organizations are being scheduled by Ai.