

MITA Governance Board Newsletter

Deputy Director's Corner

From the Desk of Ed Dolly, Data and Systems Group (DSG) Deputy Director

As we settle into 2026, the momentum behind our modernization efforts is accelerating. The work is progressing rapidly, and our workgroups are moving from planning phases into active execution.

We find ourselves at a critical juncture that presents a unique opportunity to improve the Medicaid Enterprise. This is why Agile is the central theme of our current MITA 4.0 work. We are moving away from static, "big bang" deliveries toward iterative development and continuous feedback. By embracing Agile principles, we are providing a MITA 4.0 Framework that can evolve in real-time to meet the immediate needs of States and the broader community.

The launch of our MITA 4.0 Pilot is a testament to this new mindset. We are testing, learning, and refining simultaneously. I want to thank our State partners and volunteers for their willingness to innovate with us as we build a more efficient future.

Thank you to all who continue to support this work. If you would like to get involved, share feedback, or learn more, reach out to us at MITAGovBoard@cms.hhs.gov. We look forward to continuing this journey with you.

Feature: The Agile Evolution of MITA 4.0

MITA 4.0 is in full sprint mode—our Pilot is live, partners are on board, and real-time feedback is already shaping stronger guidance.

Pilot Launch and Iterative Refinement

The MITA 4.0 Pilot is officially underway! In true agile fashion, the MITA Governance Board (MGB) has moved quickly from concept to execution with a proof-of-concept phase designed to pressure-test new tools and frameworks in real-world conditions, learn fast, and continuously improve. The objectives of the Pilot are to:

- Ensure MITA 4.0 guidance and tools meet the needs of State Medicaid Agencies (SMAs)
- Identify areas for improvement or refining of concepts and tools
- Build confidence and readiness for the future rollout of MITA 4.0

The Pilot was designed as a 14-week sprint-based cycle of short training sessions followed by hands-on working sessions, during which each Pilot participant reflects on how each topic/tool applies to their own organization. Between sessions, SMAs complete targeted assignments and provide feedback on usability, issues, level of effort, and outstanding questions.

What We're Testing and How

Participating SMAs are testing new concepts and tools, providing feedback to refine them for future use, focusing on learning and effective application.

The MITA 4.0 Pilot tests how well MITA 4.0 concepts, tools, and guidance work in real-world State contexts. This includes:

- Outcomes-based Planning Tool
- Capability, Roles, Viewpoints, and Maturity Models
- State Self-Assessment (SS-A) Tool
- Concept of Operations (ConOps) Template
- Roadmap of Planned Initiatives Template

New Partners Join the Sprint

We are thrilled to welcome our Pilot SMA partners who are helping us "sprint" toward a stronger framework. Since our December kickoff, **Georgia** and **North Carolina** have been actively testing and sharing feedback. **Texas** and **Puerto Rico** have also joined the cohort, adding even more diverse perspectives.

Iterative Feedback Loops

Feedback from Pilot participants is being collected and shared with MITA workgroups to implement in real time as they continue refining MITA 4.0 tools and guidance. This helps ensure the final MITA 4.0 guidance and tools are built on actual user experience, not just theoretical requirements. The Pilot is expected to wrap up later this spring.

Workgroup Updates

MITA 4.0 is moving fast with a Pilot-driven approach designed to help Pilot participants learn quickly and deliver feedback that workgroups can use immediately to iterate on MITA 4.0 guidance and tools. Across the Communications, NextGen, and SS-A workgroups, we're rolling out an integrated capability/architecture foundation, practical assessment tooling, and plain-language web guidance—refined through governance review and real-time Pilot feedback to make Medicaid Enterprise Systems (MES) modernization more agile and reusable.

State Self-Assessment (SS-A) Workgroup

- **Outcomes-based Planning:** Incorporated MGB feedback into the guide and template tool drafts and applied it in the Pilot's working sessions with tested examples.
- **Maturity criteria alignment:** Through a joint effort with the NextGen Workgroup, continued work on refining the MITA 4.0 criteria and addressing feedback.
- **SS-A automation:** Demoed the updated MITA 4.0 SS-A proof-of-concept tool.
- **SS-A Executive Summary and Roadmap Template:** Expanded deliverables to include an SS-A executive summary and roadmap of planned initiatives template for leadership-ready reporting.

NextGen Workgroup

- **Capability model foundation:** Finalized proposed MITA 4.0 capability domains/areas (with core/strategic/support layers) and integrated Information Architecture (IA) and Technical Architecture (TA) into the capability areas.
- **Integrated architecture via ORBIT:** Established ORBIT (Outcomes, Roles, Business Processes, Information, Technology) to connect Business Architecture (BA), IA, and TA and improve end-to-end alignment.
- **Outcomes-driven, iterative process:** Defined the high-level MITA 4.0 flow from outcomes through capability maturity assessment to Concept of Operations/viewpoints and SS-A summary/roadmap creation—with built-in iteration.
- **Parallel development:** Advanced BA/IA/TA guidance (required/recommended viewpoints, MITA 4.0 business process-to-capability mapping, IA data reference model, and the MITA 4.0 architecture process activities).
- **Certification alignment:** Aligned business processes to Streamlined Modular Certification (SMC) outcomes to identify gaps for MITA 4.0.

Communications Workgroup

- **MITA newsletter:** Continued publication of the quarterly MITA newsletter.
- **Stakeholder communications:** Launched the development of cross-team communications (monthly emails, MITA 4.0 guidance, and tools development tracker) to keep MITA workgroups and volunteers updated.
- **MITA communications materials:** Supporting the preparation of MGB and MITA communications materials for the public (e.g., presentations, poster board, etc.)
- **Website-first, plain-language guidance:** Supported redesign/content refinement so guidance is easier to find, use, and continuously update.
- **Agile reviews:** Provided rapid peer review on key guidance (e.g., maturity model, governance materials) to accelerate iteration and reduce rework.
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):** Updating FAQs based on inquiries from internal and external stakeholders, to be posted on the MGB website.

Where Can States Find MITA Information Resources?

- **MITA 3.0 Framework:** Access the current MITA 3.0 Framework materials on the [MITA 3.0 Framework website](#)
- **MGB and MITA development updates:** Find the latest updates on MITA 4.0 development on the [MITA MGB website](#)
- **Future MITA 4.0 Framework:** Once approved by CMS, MITA 4.0 materials in development will be posted to an official MITA GitHub repository, which is currently in development.

What's Next?

- Wrap up the MITA 4.0 Pilot
- Continue the development and refinement of MITA 4.0 tools and guidance
- Learn more at MITA 4.0 Sessions at MESC 2026

Final Word

As MITA 4.0 moves from closer to final release, we're seeing real momentum—driven by agile, iterative development and the practical insights coming directly from the Pilot.

Thank you to our state and territorial partners, workgroup members, and every volunteer—representing SMAs, vendors and contractors, and federal partners—contributing time, expertise, and candid feedback to help pressure-test tools, refine guidance, and strengthen the MITA 4.0 Framework in real time.

Your partnership was critical to ensure MITA 4.0 be built on **real user needs** and positioned to help States **modernize MES in a more agile, reusable, and outcomes-focused way**. We're excited for what's ahead and grateful to have you on this journey!

Stay informed. Get involved.

If you'd like to get involved, learn more, or share feedback, please reach out to the MITA Governance Board at MITAGovBoard@cms.hhs.gov.



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