

The Office of Health Strategy
Healthcare Benchmark Initiative Data Analytics Workgroup
Charter
June 2022

I. Vision and Mission

A. Vision

To advance cost growth target attainment through improved understanding of healthcare spending, utilization, and growth in the commercial, Medicare, and Medicaid markets in Connecticut.

B. Mission

To aid the Connecticut Office of Health Strategy's (OHS) Healthcare Benchmark Initiative by designing and reviewing standard cost driver reports, cost growth driver reports, and ad hoc analyses using available APCD data, identifying opportunities to reduce spending growth, and offering recommendation for areas of focus to OHS' Healthcare Benchmark Initiative Steering Committee.

II. Workgroup Charge

The Healthcare Benchmark Initiative Data Analytics Workgroup is charged with making recommendations to the Healthcare Benchmark Initiative Steering Committee regarding opportunities for reducing cost growth in the state. The Data Analytics Workgroup advice should follow guidance established by the Steering Committee's endorsed Data Use Strategy as adopted by the State, until such guidance changes. The Workgroup's activity shall include providing advice on:

- Implementing the Data Use Strategy, including design and review of standard and ad hoc reports.
- Benchmarking of Connecticut spending to other state benchmarks.
- Identifying contributors to high spending, spending variation and spending growth.
- Identifying opportunities for cost growth mitigation strategies to improve healthcare affordability.
- Using analytic findings in an illustrative manner to make a compelling case to support policy change to ensure equitable, high-quality healthcare and improved population health.
- Offering contextual insights when interpreting analytic findings.

III. Workgroup Member Responsibilities

Members of the Workgroup agree to fulfill their responsibilities through attending and participating in Workgroup meetings, studying the available information, and advising OHS on work related to the Workgroup's charge. Members agree to participate in good faith and to act in the best interests of the Workgroup and its charge. To this end, members agree to place the interests of the State above any organizational affiliations or other interests during discussions. Members accept the responsibility to collaborate in developing potential recommendations that are fair and constructive. Members are expected to consider a range of issues and options to address them, discuss the pros and cons of the issues/options presented, and deliver advice. Workgroup members acknowledge that their role is to provide advice and frame report design choices and that final decisions on Workgroup recommendations, if any, rest with the State. Specific Workgroup member responsibilities include:

- Reviewing background materials and analysis to understand the issues to be addressed in the review process.
- Attending Workgroup meetings.
- Working collaboratively with one another to explore issues and develop recommendations.
- Considering and integrating State and Steering Committee direction into advice as appropriate.

IV. Workgroup Principles

The principles, listed below, are to guide the decision-making during the development of advice by Workgroup members. Advice by Workgroup members will:

- reflect statistically robust and equity-conscious consideration of state analysis, and
- be sensitive to possible limitations to state analytic resources and data, and
- convey courtesy and respect.