

All-Payer Claims Database Release Committee Application Review Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Location
July 19, 2021	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Zoom Meeting Recording

Participant Name and Attendance

Committee Members					
Dr. Patricia Checko, Chair	X	Sheryl Turney	X	Justin Peng	X
Lisa Freeman	X	Michael Giralmo			
Supporting Leadership					
Tina Kumar, OHS		Adrian Texidor, OHS	X	Jeannina Thompson, OHS	X
Olga Armah, OHS		Demian Fontanella			

Agenda

	Topic	Responsible Party	Time
1.	Welcome and Call to Order	Dr. Patricia Checko	1:00 PM
	The scheduled meeting of the All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) Data Release Committee (DRC) Application Review Workgroup was held on Monday, July 19, 2021 by webinar. Dr. Checko welcomed the council members and called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. It was determined that a quorum was present.		
2.	Public Comment	Attendees	1:05 PM
	There was no public comment.		
3.	Review Connecticut Statutes and APCD Policy and Procedures	Dr. Patricia Checko	1:10 PM
	<p>Dr. Checko presented on the review of the Connecticut Statutes and APCD Policy and Procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Checko said she thought it would be good to review our own statutes and policies; what can be done and cannot be done. She provided some background information on the APCD. • The statutes were passed in 2012 and established an APCD to be created. It also created an Advisory Group to help create this. The committee that was set up included members from various state agencies. In 2013 a law was passed to set up the Advisory Board to go forward. Around 2016 another law was passed that moved it into the Office of Access Health. • In 2017 many came on the scene and the group started meeting. In the early meetings, they discussed how the group would proceed. It was mentioned that Rob Blundo initiated the Advisory Group. • Dr. Checko reviewed some of the items that determine what can and cannot be done. It was noted that the law specifically sets out HIPAA guidelines as a reference for how to work and particularly associated with the security issues and the kind of data that can be released. • The APCD started with January 2012 data and when the group started it was up through 2017. At that time, it only contained commercial data. Currently, it contains commercial and Medicaid. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HIPAA and Safe Harbor rules are used regarding what data can be released and cannot be released. Currently only deidentified data sets may be released. There are 18 variables that are removed.• There is an application process. The application was set up and has not been changed.• The APCD Advisory Group which is made up of about 15-20 different people provides guidance for the APCD.• The APCD was housed in Access Health from 2013 until it was moved to OHS in 2018 for administrative purposes.• OnPoint is the contractor and holds the data. The relationship with OnPoint with the database is through contract and specific individuals who are allowed to work with them on the data. It was mentioned that there is limited data set access provided by OnPoint.• The Office of Health Strategy receives zip code and dates of service. It was noted that for the internal process, the dates of service and five-digit or more zip codes are provided. There was a question about whether dates of births are released. It was noted that dates of births are in the eligibility file. Dates of birth data contain identifying information and is not released.• It is mentioned that they are appointed by the OHS Executive Director and there are no term limits. In some states, the statutes will spell out who is on the DRC. However, our statute does not spell this out and does not specifically address a DRC.• The DRC is responsible for reviewing the data request application and then accept or deny applications for use of the data according to our statute.• It was mentioned that almost anyone can ask for the data. There was a question about if a consumer asked for data without it being for research but to reflect what is going on in their area in Connecticut or something of that nature. It was noted that consumers can utilize the information to make judgments. The application process for consumers is the same as everyone else's. It was mentioned that with the health information exchange (HIE) there are talks about a consumer portal to allow consumers to have real access to their data.• Links to the Cost Estimator and the Scorecard websites were provided in the chat feature. It was suggested for members to look at the sites through a consumer lens to see if its helpful. Mr. Texidor volunteered to share the websites, the APCD Statute, and HIPAA Guidelines for Safe Harbor to members following the meeting.• It was mentioned that merging data sets is usually not allowed in any states. When a research project is geared to deliver a certain type of result, the data is reviewed. Furthermore, to ensure that the combination of the data that would be utilized does not allow the data to be identified.• There was a reminder of the intended scope for the DRC Application Committee. A goal is to help to develop a new application that satisfies all the various use cases have been received and will be received in the future.			
4.	<table><tr><td>Next Meeting Date and Assignments</td><td>Committee Members</td><td>1:50 PM</td></tr></table>	Next Meeting Date and Assignments	Committee Members	1:50 PM
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Checko stated that the survey went out. There will be follow ups. It will be very interesting to see the results regarding the usefulness of the data. It was mentioned that we			

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	<p>have not received a final report from anyone yet. A question is whether they were able to answer the questions being asked in the application with the data received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was mention that one or two people stated that they have destroyed the data and sent the appropriate documents. Mr. Texidor suggested a discussion on this at a subsequent meeting. • The Workgroup discussed setting up a regular meeting time. A suggestion was for Mondays, every other week. There was also a suggestion for every even number of weeks. Members agreed to tentatively set the next DRC Application meeting for August 2nd. It was mentioned that it would be easier to have a known time frame. • Dr. Checko volunteered to put together the data from the five states such as their statutes, application, data request form, and information that may be relevant. She suggested starting with Massachusetts and Vermont of the five states being looked at. The information will be pulled together and shared with the group. The Workgroup can look to see if there is one that looks like a good model to use. • It was mentioned that work is being done to identify a contact at each APCD in case there is follow up information that we would like to talk with them about. • The goal is for the DRC Application Workgroup to make some recommendations and bring them to the Advisory Board before the end of 2021. 		
5.	Adjournment	Dr. Patricia Checko	2:00 PM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no further discussion. • The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m. 		

Meeting information is located at: <https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/HIT-Work-Groups/APCD-DRC-Application-Review-Workgroup/Meeting-Agendas>