

All Payor Claims Database Stakeholder Advisory Group Notes

October 26, 2023 – 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Attendees:	
Dr. Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban, UTHealth	Pati McCandless, Blue Cross Blue Shield
Dr. Bob Morrow, UTHealth	Jimmy Blanton, Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Lee Spangler, UTHealth	Elena Marks, Episcopal Health Foundation
Devin York, UTHealth	Dr. Lane Aiena, Huntsville Family Medicine
Donna Alexander, UTHealth	Blaise Duran, Employee Retirement System of Texas
Jodie Nassar, UTHealth	Dr. Rick Snyder, Texas Medical Association
Gladys Rodriguez, UTHealth	Monica Thyssen, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute
Liam McElhiney, UTHealth	Holly Holcomb, Childress Regional Med Center
Laura Chamber, UT System	Kyle McKay, Teacher Retirement System
Karen Love, Cook Children’s Health Plan	Charles Miller, Texas 2036
Jennifer Miff, Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Foundation	Jeff Tullos, DistributionNOW

1. Welcome and Introduction of New Members

Robert Morrow, MD; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health

- Dr. Bob Morrow commenced the meeting with a reminder for the Stakeholder Advisory Group members on declaring conflicts of interest when applicable. Dr. Morrow followed with an introduction of the new Stakeholder Advisory Group member, Laura Chambers of the University of Texas System. Ms. Thyssen serves as the Executive Directors of Employee Benefits at UT System.

2. Data Submission Statistics

Lee Spangler, JD; Associate Professor, MPACH, & Executive Director, Texas APCD

- Mr. Spangler presented to the group the submission trends and on the progress being made on the successful collection of initial datasets from payors (March 2023 data) starting in July of 2023. During August 2023, the Center for Health Care Data (CHCD) initiated the collection of historical data from data submitters. The historical data will include data from January 01, 2019 through the date of the submitters most recent data submission. A brief summary of the data submissions are as follows:
 - 103 successful submissions were received in July 2023 for March 2023 data
 - 975 successful historical data submissions (i.e., Jan 01, 2019 through present)
 - Several data submitters were granted an extension for the initial submissions (March through June).

- The CHCD has been actively engaging with data submitters on data submissions resulting in high rates of successful, passing submissions.
- The Texas APCD has been receiving data from most large carriers.
- What data is included in a single data file? A data file is an encrypted, zip file that includes Medical (or Dental, if a Dental provider), Pharmacy, Eligibility, and a Provider file. The CHCD provided data submitters with an approved set of naming conventions to follow that systematizes and organizes the receipt of the data submitted. Upon receiving a data submission, the contents of the file are reviewed to ensure data quality thresholds [e.g., in alignment with the Common Data Layout (CDL)] are met.
- Mr. Spangler summarized the trends on passed and failed data submissions. See highlights below:
 - Failure rates dropped by 75% from March to April 2023. Failure rates continue to drop.
 - The TX APCD does currently hold complete archival data (all historical and all current data by Month) from several carriers of varying sizes. The goal is to have all carriers complete their archival data submissions by December 01, 2023.
 - The CHCD does obtain data files and communication with submitters daily resulting in the continued growth of the data within the TX APCD.
 - Any failed data submissions are quickly triaged to assess what may be causing the error.
- Comments/Questions:
 - Mr. Jeff Tullos (DistributionNOW) enquired on the thorough reviews for data quality; specifically, if the CHCD has a way to assess if any of the required populations or any relevant data is being left off of a give file submission. Mr. Spangler responded by highlighting the ongoing work on developing the Stage II data quality checks that will be underway. Unlike the initial reviews that confirm a successful (or unsuccessful) submission, the Stage II quality check will review the data contents more thoroughly.
 - Ms. Pati McCandless (Blue Cross Blue Shield) shared with group that Blue Cross (BCBS) was pleased with the responsiveness and support of the TX APCD team as BCBSTX were navigating the initial data submissions.
 - Ms. Karen Love (Cook Children's Health Plan) enquired on the progress on receiving Medicaid Data by the state. Mr. Spangler and Mr. Jimmy Blanton (Texas Health and Human Services Commission) reaffirmed that the HHSC will be reporting on behalf of all carriers that currently submit data to the HHSC. The HHSC has a new implementation team and contractor(s) in support of the data submissions to the TX APCD.

3. Small Carrier Extensions

Lee Spangler, JD; Associate Professor, MPACH, & Executive Director, Texas APCD

- Mr. Spangler discussed the small carrier extension specifications and the currently active extensions that were granted for these entities. A summary of the overview follows:
 - A small carrier extension is valid for 12, consecutive months. Further extensions are reviewed upon request.
 - 44 payors/carriers have received this form of extension (most of which have < 1000 covered lives). Extensions for these entities were granted through December 31, 2023 to allow for additional extensions to align with the calendar year.

- Comments/Questions:
 - Dr. Rick Snyder (Texas Medical Association) sought clarification for the number of small carriers that registered. Mr. Spangler shared there were 105 small carriers that registered with the TX APCD.

4. Research Cohorts

Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban, MD, DrPH; Associate Professor, MPACH & Co-Director Center for Health Care Data

- Dr. Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban commenced the discussion by highlighting some of the research interests that have surfaced through interactions with other agencies. Some of which include Sickle Cell Anemia, Cancer, and varying uncommon/chronic diseases. In particular, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has sought assistance from the CHCD to explore Sickle Cell Anemia across the state (i.e., prevalence, frequency and distribution of the disease across the state, treatment patterns, etc.). Given that APCDs across the country have been able to create and develop surveillance tools for tracking various diseases and chronic conditions, the CHCD finds the efforts of supporting these types of research cohorts to be in alignment. The CHCD has also received requests from both the Texas Cancer Registry and the Texas Birth Defects Registry.

5. Future Meetings

Robert Morrow, MD; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health

- Dr. Morrow closed the discussion with noting that the next meeting will take place sometime in late February or early March. The meeting will be held from the 3:30pm – 5pm CST timeslot. Meetings will be held virtually for the foreseeable future.

6. Adjourn

Robert Morrow, MD; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health

General Attendees:

Rachel Bowden, TDI
Jonathan Hortman, TDI
Kenisha Schuster, TDI
Lisa Kalakanis, Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Maggie M, TAHP
Alex Goldson, Superior Health Plan
Will McGowan, Superior Health Plan
Elizabeth Moseley, Superior Health Plan
John Dowd, Superior Health Plan
Ben Wright, Texas Medical Association
Victoria Ford, Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute (THBI)
Teresa Devine, BCBSTX

Dustin Moyer, Center for Improving Value in Healthcare
Ahreum Han, Trinity University
Galen Harris, Delta Dental
Chris Williams, Guardian Life
Jim Locke, Molina Healthcare
Carol Weil, Molina Healthcare
Cindy Fortress, Molina Healthcare
Rosario Groomes, Molina Healthcare
Brittani Bilse, Principal
Veronica Shafer, PHI Network
Shondra Chester Green, Companion Life