

All-Payer Claims Database (Governor's Bill: H.B. 5038)

FACT SHEET

The All-Payer Claims Database is an essential tool to achieve the goals of Health Reform in Connecticut. It will improve the quality, access and affordability of health care and the performance of the health care delivery system.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is an APCD?

The All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) is a large-scale database that systematically collects and aggregates medical, dental, and pharmacy claims data from private payers (e.g. commercial insurers) and public payers such as Medicare and Medicaid. Over a dozen other states have enacted legislation and/or have started to implement an APCD.

What is the purpose of an APCD?

The purpose of the database is to provide information on health care cost and quality in order to make informed health care decisions.

Who is reporting?

The APCD will collect information that has been submitted by private payers (e.g. commercial insurers) and public payers such as Medicaid and Medicare. Data will not be collected from individual health care providers.

We already have health care data available, why do we need another database?

The APCD is the first and only state database that will bring together financial and other claim data from multiple public and private payers. It will allow us to look at wide range of critical issues in health care on a statewide basis.

Why is this necessary now?

For the first time, we have the inter-agency collaboration, health reform leadership, stakeholder support and technical readiness to implement an APCD. The APCD will take advantage of funding opportunities available through the Health Insurance Exchange (HIX) that will not be available later. It will be a powerful complement to the Health Information Exchange (HITE-CT) in improving the way care is delivered in this state.

What about my privacy?

The APCD will strictly comply with HIPAA and all applicable federal and state privacy laws that prevent the release of protected health information. Data will only be released in a de-identified form so that data cannot be traced back to the specific individual. Detailed privacy policies, rules and regulations regarding data collection, management and release will adhere to national standards and will be subject to public comment.

Who will use the APCD? The APCD will provide different access for different groups. Data release rules and regulations will ensure information is used appropriately and only by approved parties.

| Consumers | Payers | Providers |
|---|---|--|
| Consumers will have information concerning the cost and quality of healthcare services to make economically sound and medically appropriate health care decisions. This information will be available in a FREE Web-Based Portal. | Payers will have data required to make informed decisions that improve quality of care and reduce health care costs. | Providers will have data required to make evidence-based decisions that improve quality of care and reduce health care costs. |
| State Agencies | Employers | Researchers |
| Agencies will have data required to make evidence-based decisions on targeted public health initiatives that improve health care at both the individual and population levels. | Employers will have data required to make informed decisions about selecting health benefit plans that improve quality of care and reduce health care costs for their employees. | Researchers will have data required to promote and generate new scientific evidence. |

How much will APCD Users be charged? Researchers and other external users will be assessed a reasonable fee for de-identified datasets. Consumers will not be charged for access to an on-line portal.