

## All Payor Claims Database Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting

March 9, 2022 – 3:30 – 5:00 pm

### Meeting Notes

Attendees:	
Dr. Trudy Krause, UTHealth	Pati McCandless, BCBS
Dr. Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban, UTHealth	Kyle McKay, TRS
Dr. Bob Morrow, UTHealth	Dr. Bob Town, UT Austin
Lee Spangler, UTHealth	Charles Miller, Texas 2036
Donna Alexander, UTHealth	Elena Marks, Episcopal Health Foundation
Devin York, UTHealth	Dr. Rick Snyder, Texas Medical Association
Joseph Harrison, UTHealth	Dr. Lane Aiena, Huntsville Family Medicine
Kara Crawford, UTHealth	John McCord, TX Retailers Association
Scott Forbes, UTHealth	Jeff Tullos, DistributionNOW
Liam McElhiney, UTHealth	John Petrilla, MMHPI
Brandan Gordon, UTHealth	Karen Love, CCHP
Rachel Bowden, TDI	Jennifer Miff, DFWHC Foundation
Kenisha Schuster, TDI	Blaise Duran, ERS
Jonathan Hortman, TDI	Holly Holcomb, Childress Regional Med Center

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions:

**Robert Morrow, M.D.; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health**

- Dr. Morrow commenced the first APCD Stakeholder Advisory group with the introduction of Mr. Lee Spangler, Executive Director of the APCD. Introductions of the advisory group members, Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) personnel, and Center for Health Care Data (CHCD) staff followed.

#### 2. All Payor Claims Database:

**Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban, M.D., DrPH; Assistant Professor, UT Health School of Public Health**

- Dr. Ganduglia presented to the group an overview of the UTHealth Center for Health Care Data (CHCD). The CHCD is the largest healthcare data repository in Texas and houses various datasets (*e.g., National Health Care Administrative Claims data; Electronic Medical Records; Survey datasets; and Social Determinants of Health*). The goals of the CHCD are to support evidence-based research, education, and advocacy to improve the health of our communities.
- Dr. Ganduglia discussed the passing of Texas HB 2090 which named the CHCD as the administrator of the All Payor Claims Database (APCD). Project milestones for fiscal year 2022 were shared which included: estimated rule adoption date; first biennial report to legislature; and historical data submissions. Additional discussion points are as follows:
  - Plans that are required to submit (*e.g., Medical, dental, behavioral health, etc.*).

- Data files required in submissions (e.g., *eligibility, enrollment, medical claims, pharmacy, and dental*).
- Data use requirements and restrictions.
- A copy of the slide deck is appended to these minutes.

**3. The Role of the Stakeholder Advisory Group**

**Robert Morrow, M.D.; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health**

- Dr. Morrow reviewed the Stakeholder Advisory group roles and aims to assist the CHCD with APCD standards, policies, procedures, prioritization, and evaluation.

**4. TDI Rule Making Process**

**Rachel Bowden, Director of Regulatory Initiatives, Life & Health Division, Texas Department of Insurance**

- Ms. Rachel Bowden provided an overview and update on the finalizing of the rules specific to the APCD. TDI posted an informal draft of the rules in November 2021. Utilizing stakeholder comments from the informal publication and the further development of technical specifications (e.g., *incorporation of the Common Data Layout; data files and requirements; data submission guide; and frequency of reporting*), the rule making process has progressed to TDI's formal review. Upon completion of the review, the rules will be submitted to the Texas register.
- Current Statutory deadline for rule adoption is June 01, 2022. A 30-day comment period is included.

**5. APCD Rule Draft Status & Discussion**

**Robert Morrow, M.D.; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health**

- An open discussion was held with the Advisory group members to raise any comments, questions, and concerns with the draft rules. Members shared their thoughts and visions for the APCD on transparency, accountability, research, and healthcare. Some of the highlights are as follows:
  - Pati McCandless – Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) of Texas
    - Kudos of sharing draft rules early and project schedule.
    - Early testing and ample time for submissions will be valuable.
    - BCBSTX/HCSC currently submits data to other states. BCBSTX and other plans may need at least 6 months to prepare for submissions.
    - For some plans (e.g., smaller payor organizations), APCD requirements may be a challenge and require additional support.
    - Inquiry on data security of PHI.
  - Karen Love – Cook Children’s Health Plan (CCHP)
    - The CHCD confirmed that Medicaid (HHSC) will be submitting data on behalf of the MCOs. Dr. Krause shared with the group that this process will be visible on the data submission guide and has been confirmed by HHSC.
    - Shared concerns on data submission requirements and the creation of additional work on payors e.g., *requiring data that a payor may not have*).
  - Dr. Bob Town – University of Texas at Austin

- Asked about whether non-claims payments are being captured by the APCD. Although non-claims payments are not currently in the draft rules, Dr. Krause affirmed that this recommendation as well as others made by the advisory group are valuable for future updates to the legislature and for the regulations.
- Discussed access to data, respective requirements and processes, and vision.
- Kyle McKay – Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS)
  - Asked about the challenges of linking member identification information without Social Security numbers. A member of the CHCD responded and shared that a Master Patient Index (MPI) will be created. The MPI will pull from multiple data sources and allow for individuals to be identified and assigned a unique identifier across time and plan(s).

## 6. Benefits of a Texas APCD

**Trudy M. Krause, DrPH; Professor, UT Health School of Public Health**

- Dr. Krause presented to the group on the intent of the APCD (see slide 16: public reporting and other applications) and initiated a group discussion on uses, interests, and stakeholder specific benefits. Members of the advisory group identified the following:
  - Blaise Duran – Employee Retirement System of Texas (ERS)
    - Asked about the types of identified data available to researchers. Dr. Krause responded that there are ongoing conversations regarding the APCD’s processes for accessing data. Although identifiers will be submitted to the APCD, data will be deidentified (*e.g., providing age instead of birth date on a given year*) for reporting and for data extract purposes. Dr. Krause shared that the Stakeholder Advisory Group’s expertise on the varying complexity of the requests for data access would be invaluable.
  - John Petrilla – Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (MMHPI)
    - Highlighted the issues of disparity specific to mental health (*e.g., COVID-19 impacts on child/adolescent mental health and suicide rates*) and equitable access to care.
  - Kyle McKay – TRS
    - Asked about the distinction between level of granularity of data available for front-facing portal and for extracts for researchers. Currently, the CHCD has the same level of restriction(s) set for both. Dr. Ganduglia Cazaban discussed data available in an extract and the guidelines for researchers (*e.g., cannot identify an individual patient or health plan on publications*).
    - Mr. McKay also observed the potential limitations of data analyses on care without having information on the health plan’s design.
  - Charles Miler – Texas2036

- Asked about preclearance (reviews) of researcher publications and reporting. There was consensus among the group that this is important. Group members requested agenda of the next advisory group meeting include this topic.
- Discussed the value of the data as it relates to the following: associations to price and quality; how to drive value and care; and long-term quality outcomes at the provider and payor level.
- Elena Marks – Episcopal Health Foundation
  - Raised the need for more research in population and public health (*i.e., quality of care in relation to health outcomes*) and incorporating other non-medical measures/factors: Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and demographics. Dr. Krause responded and discussed the CHCD’s active development of a SDOH data library. The SDOH data is available through the CHCD and will also be made available for researchers interested in incorporating SDOH to the claims data being accessed through the APCD.
- Dr. Rick Snyder – Texas Medical Association (TMA)
  - Discussed interests in: 1) exploring different models (value-based care vs. Accountable Care Organization models) for comparing health care for similar populations in geographic areas; and 2) Comparing cost and quality based on site of service (*outpatient departments; Ambulatory Surgical Centers; and telehealth*).
- Dr. Lane Aiena – Huntsville Family Medicine
  - Cost breakdown and financial allocations as it relates to health outcomes.
  - County breakdown data would be beneficial to have.
- Karen Love – CCHP
  - Inquired on types of providers being visible in the data (*Medicaid vs. Commercial vs. Medicare advantage*). The CHCD confirmed that this will be viewable including plan type.
- Dr. Bob Town – UT Austin
  - Linking data from the APCD with other forms of data. Dr. Town advised the benefits of having protocols in place to ensure accurate analyses and representation of the data.
- Jeff Tullos – DistributionNOW
  - Discussed the power of being able to identify and validate macro trends through the APCD specific to SDOH.
- John McCord – Texas Retailers Association
  - Interested in assessing access to affordable care and insurance for small business.
- Jen Miff – Dallas Forth Worth Hospital Council (DFWHC) Foundation
  - Highlighted some of the advantages of the APCD holding adjudicated claims.
  - Echoed the need of an IRB for data access requests; and the importance of the Master Patient Index (MPI) to the workflow of data analytics and research.

**7. Preferred dates/times for future meetings.**

**Robert Morrow, M.D.; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health School of Public Health**

- Tentative future meeting details are as follows:
  - 1.5 hour duration
  - Quarterly schedule (next meeting in mid-May)
  - WebEx /teleconference format for now. However, hybrid and in person options are being explored.

**8. Adjourn**

For comments or questions, please respond to: [txapcd@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:txapcd@uth.tmc.edu)

*General Attendees:*

Chris Skisak, HBCH
Helen Kent Davis, TMA
Jamie Dudensing, TAHP
Jason Baxter, TAHP
Kevin Stewart, TAHP
Melissa Eason, TAHP
Nick Bendiks, HHSC
Noelle Collins, TX Policy
Stacey Chamberlin, Chief of Staff for Senator Kelly Hancock
Teresa Devine, BCBS