

All Payor Claims Database Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting

May 18, 2022 – 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Meeting Notes

Attendees:	
Dr. Cecilia Ganduglia Cazaban, UTHealth	Pati McCandless, Blue Cross Blue Shield
Dr. Bob Morrow, UTHealth	Karen Love, Cook Children's Health Plan
Lee Spangler, UTHealth	Dr. Bob Town, UT Austin
Donna Alexander, UTHealth	Charles Miller, Texas 2036
Devin York, UTHealth	Elena Marks, Episcopal Health Foundation
Brandan Gordon, UTHealth	Dr. Rick Snyder, Texas Medical Association
Blaise Duran, Employee Retirement System of Texas	Dr. Lane Aiena, Huntsville Family Medicine
Holly Holcomb, Childress Regional Med Center	Jeff Tullos, DistributionNOW
Jimmy Blanton, Texas Health and Human Services Commission	John Petrilla, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

- Welcome:** **Robert Morrow, M.D.; Executive in Residence & Associate Professor, UT Health, School of Public Health**
- Policy Review: Data Submission Guide (Attached)** **Devin York, Senior Project Manager, UT Health, Center for Health Care Data**

BACKGROUND: A designated role of the Advisory Group is to provide assistance in establishing and updating the standards, requirements, policies, and procedures relating to the collection and use of data contained in the database required by Sections 38.404(e) and (f).

- Mr. York presented to the group a high-level overview of the Data Submission Guide (DSG). Some of the areas discussed include:
 - Data Submitter Registration process
 - Common Data Layout (CDL). The CDL defines the data elements of a submission (*i.e., data fields, formatting, and general expectations*).
 - DSG as an operational and procedural tool for Data submitters.
 - Future updates/improvements to the DSG
- Mr. Spangler shared with the group on the progress of the rule adoption process. Formal comments have been reviewed by TDI and are utilized for making modifications to the rules (*e.g., DSG updates with the goal to lessen the burden on payors and data submitters*). The rules will be soon be submitted to the Texas register.
- The Stakeholder Advisory group held an open discussion. Some of the highlights are as follows:
 - Ms. McCandless (BCBS) – Shared that the DSG is still being reviewed by BCBSTX and inquired about the inclusion of denied claims and reason codes. Mr. Spangler responded and brought attention to the guidance TAHP has provided on the Claim Adjustment Reason Codes (CARCs).

CARCs help to explain and define why a particular claim may have been denied. CARCs can be utilized as a filter by data submitters for identifying which claims should and should not be submitted (e.g., duplicate claims).

- Mr. John Petrilla – Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (MMHPI) – asked for clarification on the specifications of voluntary and mandated submitters with special attention to possible obstacles for the voluntary group. Mr. Spangler reassured the group that the current draft of the rules does not create an obstacle for voluntary submitters to participate. Mr. Spangler also commented on the value of having more voluntary submitters and highlighted the quantity of data that will be obtained by the required submitters.
- Jeff Tullos – DistributionNOW – Inquired on a marketing collateral document for voluntary groups that addresses topics of concern for voluntary groups including data security. Mr. Spangler discussed the partnership that the Center has with Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) and the level of expertise on data security that both the Center and TACC hold. Dr. Ganduglia detailed the Center’s Qualified Entity (QE) status that is obtained through CMS and the additional steps being taken by the center to ensure compliance standards are met by TACC, the UT Systems, and UTHealth.

3. Future Meeting & Adjourn

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

- Dr. Morrow and Mr. Spangler provided closing comments:
 - Next virtual meeting will be in/around August. Frequency of meetings may increase if needed.
 - In-person meeting formats may will also be explored for future meetings when appropriate.
 - A legislative report is required by the APCD to be developed and submitted. A copy will be provided to the Stakeholder Advisory group members once a draft has been finalized.

For comments or questions, please respond to: txapcd@uth.tmc.edu

General Attendees:

Kevin Steward, TAHP
