



## All Payer Claims Database Advisory Group

### DRAFT Regular Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2023

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Location
November 9, 2023	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	<a href="#">Zoom Meeting Recording</a>

#### Attendance: Advisory Group Members

Olga Armah (Chairperson)	R	Patricia Checko	X	Bernie Inskeep	R
Paul Lombardo	R	François de Brantes	X	Robert Barry, DAS	X
Robert Aseltine	R	Sandra Czunas	R	Michaela Dinan	R
Scott Gaul, OPM	R	Michael Giralmo, DHMAS	R	Cassandra Murphy	R
Sarah Carr, OHA	R	Robert Scalettar, MD	X		
William Halsey, DSS	X	James Iacobellis	R		

#### Supporting Leadership

Jeannina Thompson	R	Cindy Dubuque-Gallo	R		
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*In accordance with current FOIA statutes re: meetings held by solely by electronic means: R = attended remotely, IP = attended in person*

#### Agenda

	Topic	Responsible Party	Time
1.	<b>Welcome and Call to Order</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
	The regularly scheduled meeting of the APCD Advisory Group was held virtually on Thursday, August 10, 2023. Olga welcomed members and called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. Upon roll call it was determined quorum was present.		
2.	<b>Public Comment</b>	<b>Members of Public</b>	<b>1:05 p.m.</b>
	There were no public comments.		
3.	<b>Membership Update</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:06 p.m.</b>
	Olga announced that Ted Doolittle has resigned as the state's healthcare advocate to pursue another position and Sarah Carr will now represent the Office of the Healthcare Advocate. Olga invited Sarah to introduce herself.		
4.	<b>Action: Review and Approve Minutes: August 10, 2023 Regular Meeting</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:07 p.m.</b>
	Olga requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2023 meeting. A motion was made (Giralmo) and seconded (Iacobellis). All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.		
5.	<b>Action: Approval of 2024 Meeting Schedule</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:09 p.m.</b>
	Olga requested a motion to approve the 2024 meeting schedule. A motion was made (Iacobellis) and seconded (Czunas). All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.		
6.	<b>APCD Strategic Activities Update</b>	<b>Olga Armah &amp; Cindy Dubuque-Gallo, OHS</b>	<b>1:11 p.m.</b>
	<p>Olga presented an update on APCD strategic activities, key highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ activities are organized into two major categories: 1) data enhancements and utilization, and 2) operational enhancements.</li> <li>▪ an overview of the activities within each category. Activities were organized into three rails based on resources, process involved and time it will take to implement.</li> <li>▪ a status report on several of the activities presently in process.</li> </ul> <p>Olga invited Cindy Dubuque-Gallo of OHS to report on activities associated with encouraging ERISA plans to submit data to the APCD. Cindy stated that the Governor and Comptroller hosted a large employer meeting recently, and employers were invited to participate in the APCD; information will be shared with the employers on the data submission process and the benefits of participating. Cindy stated that members will be kept updated. Jim Iacobellis inquired if this topic can be added to the February agenda, Olga replied yes.</p>		

	<p>Olga provided a status update on other strategic activities, key highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the APCD website is being redesigned to include more information and greater accessibility.</li> <li>▪ data visualizations will be added to the website in an accessible way and visitors will be provided a better understanding about healthcare spending and costs in the State.</li> <li>▪ the Cost estimator tool is being replaced.</li> <li>▪ OHS continues to fill vacancies across all councils.</li> </ul>		
<b>7.</b>	<b>APCD Projects – Status Update</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:20 p.m.</b>
	<p>Olga presented a status update on various projects in which APCD data is being used, key highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>APCD Snapshot</b> – a snapshot of what is contained within the APCD is located on the OHS website. The dashboard is updated quarterly with the most recent update having occurred approximately three weeks ago. Olga invited members to view the dashboard.</li> <li>▪ <b>Cost Estimator Tool</b> – APCD statutes require OHS to develop a cost estimator tool to provide cost estimates for common services provided in the state to payers and residents. The tool is being replaced with a new and improved version.</li> <li>▪ <b>Statewide Facilities Plan Preliminary Report</b> – OHS has recruited Altarum to assist with this project; OHS has received a preliminary report for Phase 1, which is the impact of market consolidations in the state. OHS is currently reviewing the information provided and hopes to release this to the public soon.</li> <li>▪ <b>Behavioral Health Parity Study</b> – this study is also being supported by Acumen using APCD and Medicaid data. Still in the early stages of the study as there were some delays. OHS is currently working with the consultant on how to process the APCD data.</li> <li>▪ <b>Hospitals’ Community Benefit</b> – release of a limited data set for hospitals’ community benefit work is required by law; OHS has worked with the hospitals to develop a Data Use Agreement (DUA) and application form relevant to the specific requests.</li> </ul> <p>Olga provided additional information regarding the Healthcare Cost Estimator Tool. Some issues were identified with the original tool and these issues have now been addressed and the tool has also been enhanced. Before OHS publishes the tool, there will be a soft launch which will initially include beta testing of the tool with external stakeholders. Olga commented that members are welcome to test the tool and provide feedback if they are available. In addition to beta testing, rebranding of a future version of the tool is being considered.</p>		
<b>8.</b>	<b>APCD Updates</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>
	<p>Olga provided an update on data type and years available in the APCD. Commercial data is now available up to June 2023. Olga announced that OHS has officially submitted a request to CMS to receive updated data which will bring Medicare data up to 2022; the plan is to then obtain the data on an annual basis.</p> <p>Olga provided an update on new data collection commenting that one of the strategic activities for the APCD includes enhancement of APCD data. Olga announced that changes to the Data Submission Guide approved by the group for collection of denied and dental claims, and race, ethnicity and language, went into effect on October 1, 2023. Payers will now be reporting this data in the new format in January. February submission will include January data.</p> <p>Olga informed the group further regarding dental data collection. With the help of CID, industry, and Onpoint assessing what other states are collecting and from which carriers, OHS was able to identify 25 dental carriers, all of which have gone through the registration process. So far, based on the threshold of 3,000 lives, identified in the current APCD policies and procedures, three carriers will be submitting data to the APCD.</p> <p>Olga presented a visual timeline of the process for requesting data through CMS.</p>		
<b>9.</b>	<b>APCD Data Release Committee Report</b>	<b>Olga Armah, OHS</b>	<b>1:35 p.m.</b>
	<p>Olga reported that OHS is in receipt of an external request for data from Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. OHS is processing the request and hoping that the DRC will conduct its public review during their next monthly meeting. Olga reported that OHS is also processing several internal requests: two from DPH and one from AHCT.</p>		
<b>10.</b>	<b>Wrap Up &amp; Adjournment</b>	<b>Sumit Sajjani, HITO</b>	<b>1:38 p.m.</b>
	<p>Ms. Armah provided a recap of the meeting before requesting a motion to adjourn. A motion was made (Inskeep) and seconded (Giriamo). Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:38 PM.</p>		

**Upcoming Meeting: February 8, 2024**

**Meeting Resources**

**Material:** [APCD Advisory Group--Meeting Materials \(ct.gov\)](#)

**Zoom Recording:** [ctvideo.ct.gov/ohs/APCD\\_Advisory\\_Group\\_Meeting\\_Recording\\_11092023.mp4](#)

**Presentation:** [PowerPoint Presentation \(ct.gov\)](#)

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