



## All Payer Claims Database Advisory Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Date: April 29, 2013  
Time: 1:00 p.m. EST  
Location: Hilton Hartford, Grand Ballroom West

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### **Members Present**

Kevin Counihan, Robert Aseltine, Matt Katz, Anne Foley for Ben Barnes; Bob Scalettar, Vicki Veltri, Kim Martone, Michael Michaud for Pat Rehmer, Dean Myshrall, Bob Tessier

### **Members Absent**

James Iacobellis, Kevin Lembo, Jewel Mullen, Victor Villagra, Tom Woodruff

### **Members by Telephone**

Mary Ellen Breault, Rod Bremby, Mary Taylor

### **Other Participants**

Access Health CT: Matt Salner, Jim Wadleigh; Freedman Healthcare: Linda Green, John Freedman

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#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Kevin Counihan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Counihan provided a brief Exchange update.

#### **II. Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

#### **III. Mission and Vision**

Mr. Counihan briefly provided funding background for the APCD, indicating that Access Health CT (AHCT) received \$6.5 million dollars as part of a Level 2 Establishment Grant towards APCD implementation. Mr. Counihan provided a presentation overview introducing the key uses of the APCD ([Presentation](#)). Mr. Counihan provided five APCD principles for consideration by the Advisory Group. The group will review and suggest comments for adoption during the next meeting.

#### **IV. APCD Status (timeline, key activities, data submission guide)**

Mr. Counihan provided a brief overview of the legislation timeline. The APCD will be moved to AHCT by passage of Governor's Budget Bill 6354 (Section 9). Mr. Counihan provided the key components of the bill. Initial operational steps will include the hiring of an Executive Director. AHCT will provide resources for general operations support, while Freedman Healthcare will assist with project management, subject matter expertise, and implementation support. Mr. Counihan introduced Linda Green of Freedman Healthcare.

Ms. Green provided a brief history of the firm's expertise with APCDs. Ms. Green provided the names and titles of the key staff supporting the project. Ms. Green reported that the company has drafted a Data Submission Guide (DSG). Matt Katz requested a list of potential data management vendors as well as bios of key Freedman Healthcare staff. Ms. Green described the DSG, which defines the specific data elements to be included in the files submitted by the carriers. Ms. Green provided an overview of the four file types (eligibility, medical claims, pharmacy claims, and provider file) and specified the information the four files will include. Ms. Green stated that AHCT will contract with a data management vendor, who will develop a secure file submission protocol. Members discussed the various data being collected. Vicki Veltri asked if race, ethnicity and primary language could be part of the eligibility file. Advisory Group members emphasized the importance of capturing race, ethnicity, and primary language data as part of the eligibility file. Ms. Green mentioned that this information has been difficult to collect in the past, but that these fields will be included in the Data Submission Guide and discussed with the carriers.

A discussion of whether pharmacy and dental files need to be submitted separately from the medical claims file, ensued. Ms. Green explained that pharmacy claims are typically built on a separate system, and discussed the possibility of also separating out dental claims, as it has been a struggle to report this data since it is not as robust as the medical data. Ms. Green indicated that the Colorado APCD is currently in discussions regarding the inclusion of dental data, and that she would get more information on this from Colorado and share it with the Advisory Group. Mr. Katz asked if information on claims which were denied or not paid would be collected. Ms. Green responded that a "price denied" field will be provided, and the group agreed that "billed" charges would be an important data element to capture.

Ms. Green defined the role of the Data Manager. The Data Manager will be responsible for data collection, warehousing, quality review, and validation. The Data Manager will also be responsible for generating de-identified reports (both hard-copy and online). Mr. Counihan emphasized the critical need for privacy and security. It was agreed that the DSG would be provided to the Advisory Group, so that they could review the data elements being collected. Mr. Counihan indicated that a Data Review Board will be established to oversee how the data will be used and who will be given access to it. Mr. Counihan and Mr. Aseltine will meet to discuss the handling of data requests and how to leverage existing processes (e.g. IRB) to avoid duplication.

Ms. Green described the various data manager models used by other states. The models include a single contractor model, multiple contractors, and state agency plus contractors. Mr. Counihan suggested that Phil Kalin, the CEO of the Colorado APCD, meet with the Advisory Group to discuss their experiences with APCD management and security. Dean Myshrall made the suggestion that the data be managed by a vendor and housed within a State facility. Discussion ensued. Ms. Green suggested bringing in an expert to discuss data protection and sharing. Mr. Katz mentioned that the Attorney General's may have authority related to the APCD. Mr. Counihan said that AHCT would look into whether the AG needs to be involved in APCD matters.

Ms. Green provided a brief overview of the timeline for the Data Manager RFP. The RFP will be drafted in May and released in June or July. Bidder responses and evaluation will be completed in Q3 2013, with a target contract start date in Q4 2014.

Ms. Green discussed the APCD reporting priorities which include the following:

1. Consumer-facing decision support
2. Evaluate the effects of health care innovations and reforms
3. Provide benchmarking for public policy purposes

Ms. Green displayed a snapshot of New Hampshire's health cost tool for consumers, which provides the patient share and estimated cost of services by procedure code. Discussion ensued. Ms. Green also showed aspects of the Colorado APCD including: mapping tools for total cost of care and per capita utilization, snapshot reports of various medical procedures (i.e. high cost imaging, knee arthroscopy, and knee replacement), and said that interactive reports for price comparisons will be available later this year. Mr. Counihan stated that examples of the CO snapshot reports will be sent to the Advisory Group. Ms. Green provided a brief overview of APCD uses by other states.

Ms. Green spoke briefly to sustainability planning indicating that L2 funding is currently available through December 2014. Sustainability strategies will include identifying one-time and recurring support resources, working with state agency partners to identify their reporting and data needs, and setting reasonable APCD usage fees that cover costs of producing the data.

Ms. Green provided a recap of the project timeline and major milestones, including: the hiring of an Executive Director in May or June, the selection of a Data Manager in the fall of 2013, and the ability to generate reports from claims data in the summer or fall of 2014.

#### **V. Next Steps**

Mr. Counihan summarized the action items and next steps of the Advisory Group. Ms. Veltri recommended having a consumer on RFP review committee.

Mr. Counihan requested a motion to approve the December 13, 2012 meeting minutes. Mr. Myshrall made the motion. Mr. Aseltine seconded. Mr. Katz, Bob Tessier, and Anne Foley abstained due to absence. Motion was approved.

#### **VI. Future Meetings**

Mr. Counihan proposed a meeting schedule. The Advisory Group agreed to meet every other month on a Monday morning until there is a need to revise the schedule. The Advisory Group will meet again at the end of June and will also have ad hoc meetings as necessary.

Kim Martone suggested that the Data Manager take into consideration what data is currently being collected by DPH, to avoid duplication. Freedman will touch base with DPH on this matter. Mr. Katz suggested that every agency have the opportunity to inform AHCT of the data elements they are currently collecting.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Mr. Counihan requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Katz made the motion. Mr. Tessier seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

#### **Resources:**

[Agenda](#)

[Previous Minutes](#)

[Presentation](#)

[Draft Submission Guide](#)