



## All Payer Claims Database Advisory Group Meeting Meeting Minutes

Date: June 25, 2013  
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST  
Location: Legislative Office Building, Room 1A  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

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### **Members Present**

Kevin Counihan, Robert Aseltine, Ben Barnes, Matt Katz, Josh Wojcik (for Kevin Lembo), Kim Martone, Dean Myshrall, Michael Michaud (for Pat Rehmer), Jean Rexford, Bob Scalettar, Mary Taylor, Bob Tessier, Vicki Veltri, Victor Villagra, Tom Woodruff

### **Members Absent**

Rod Bremby, James Iacobellis, Mary Alice Lee, Jewel Mullen

### **Members by Telephone**

Mary Ellen Breault

### **Other Participants**

Access Health CT: Matt Salner, Jim Wadleigh; Freedman Healthcare: Linda Green, Marc Prettenhofer, Tanya Bernstein

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

Kevin Counihan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

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

No public comments were made.

#### **III. Approval of April 29, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Counihan requested a motion to approve the April 29, 2013 meeting minutes. Mary Ellen Breault requested an amendment to reflect that she represented Thomas Leonardi at meeting. Mr. Counihan noted the amendment. The minutes were approved.

#### **IV. CEO Update**

Mr. Counihan stated that he has narrowed the list of candidates for the Executive Director position down to four, which will soon be reduced to three. The Executive Director will be announced on July 11, 2013. The APCD team will have a separate office, currently under construction, at 280 Trumbull. This unit will be a separate entity with a staff of approximately 6-7 people, and will work with senior staff members of Access Health CT. The APCD will have

its own name, possibly Access Health Analytics, to reflect future capabilities of data analysis, and state-specific risk sharing. Mr. Counihan introduced Linda Green of Freedman Healthcare.

**V. Data Submission Guide Update**

Ms. Green introduced two members of the Freedman Team: Marc Prettenhofer, a data specifications expert with experience in systems development; and Tanya Bernstein, the writer and project manager for the effort. Ms. Green provided an overview of the Data Submission Guide and explained that it will be incorporated, by reference, into the APCD policies and procedures. Ms. Green reported that the firm met with several carriers (data submitters), and solicited comments from potential data management vendors in regards to the DSG draft. Comments provided by carriers and vendors will be reviewed and incorporated into a revised version of the Data Submission Guide, to accompany the policies and procedures that will go in front of the Board next month.

Vicki Veltri asked if any states collect denied claims data and whether CT should be collecting this information. Ms. Green outlined several of the reasons why claims are denied and Mr. Prettenhofer added that collecting denied claims may pose a data feed size concern. Mary Taylor explained that a claim denied one month can be paid the following month, and that no other state APCDs currently collect denied claims. A discussion ensued on the policy reasons and implications of collecting denied claims. Ms. Green stated that all comments will be noted and the topic of denied claims will be revisited in future meetings. Mr. Prettenhofer added that collecting denied claims would push back the timeline of providing consumer-facing decision support in the fall of 2014. Mr. Counihan agreed that pushing back the timeline for substantive reports is something that Access Health CT would like to avoid.

Ms. Green provided a summary on the availability of race, language, and ethnicity based on past research. She reported race was typically completed for 2% - 10% of enrollees, because this information is not regularly collected on insurance forms. Ms. Veltri noted that this may be improving in the future as the health exchange enrolls members and collects this information. Mr. Counihan noted an appeal was made to CMS for REL to be a mandated field, however it was deemed unlikely to succeed given member sensitivities about discrimination and rate setting by insurers. Mr. Katz sought confirmation that REL fields would be included in the DSG, and would be used as a foundation for future progress. Mr. Villagra reiterated the importance of REL data as a requirement to meet state health reform goals in eliminating disparities in healthcare. He voiced concern about 2%-10% being too low, and the need for a collaborative process to take place in collecting this data in the future.

Ms. Green also provided a summary of carrier comments on the Data Submission Guide. These comments included: challenges to meeting minimum data standards; standardization to X-12 is an issue; uncertainty on definition of "CT resident"; carrier internal lead time; importance of good relationship with data management vendor.

Ms. Taylor stated that X-12 accepts proposed changes for consideration, although this process requires consensus from several states and can take a long time. Mr. Counihan asked whether X-12 data elements align with risk-adjustment. Mr. Prettenhofer responded that they do not and added that X-12 standards are currently only available for the medical claims file. A brief discussion ensued about possible integration of the APCD with the State Innovation Model (SIM) effort. Mr. Counihan stated that the APCD process is iterative and advocated sticking

to the current timeline for providing consumer-facing decision support. The Advisory Group agreed to revisit integration at a later date.

Ms. Green provided a summary of Data Submission Guide next steps, which include: incorporation of carrier and vendor comments; draft of final DSG document by early July; and incorporation (by reference) into policies and procedures.

**VI. Data Management Vendor Request for Proposals**

Ms. Green defined the role and characteristics of the Data Manager. The data manager will be a provider of “software as a service”, will have experience with APCDs, will be financially stable, and will have the ability to customize reports to state-specific needs. Mr. Counihan added that the reports produced by the data manager should be user-friendly and have high customer satisfaction. Ms. Green stated that the RFP is currently being drafted and will be issued in late July with responses due in September. Ms. Green provided a recap of all major data collection milestones. Ms. Veltri asked if the Advisory Group will be involved in the RFP drafting process and Mr. Counihan responded that they will have a chance to opine.

**VII. Next Steps**

Ms. Green summarized the action items and next steps of the Advisory Group. Ms. Taylor suggested that the Advisory Group give some thought to how the data will be used, to inform future direction.

Mr. Counihan welcomed two new members to the council: Mary Alice Lee and Jean Rexford.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.