

**Virginia All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) Advisory Committee**  
**Data Review Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

November 1, 2016

*Meeting held via teleconference*

Members present: Charlie Frazier (Chair), Al Hinkle, Dave Neuwirth, Marcia Yeskoo, Michael Matthews

Others present: Sheryl Turney, Jonathon Yost, Kyle Russell, Stephanie Kuhn

Call to order at 1:02 p.m.

Charlie Frazier welcomed the members and guests of the All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) Advisory Committee Data Review Subcommittee (hereafter “the Subcommittee”). He then reviewed that the role of the subcommittee was to evaluate any APCD data requests and advise VHI how to proceed with the requests.

Kyle Russell summarized the request that VHI received from the University of Virginia (UVA). The university requested two de-identified data extracts from the Virginia APCD for two different types of analysis. The two types of data requested were:

1. Pharmacy claims data for individuals for two specific health planning districts in Southwestern Virginia that have been diagnosed with cancer. The data would include all prescriptions for those individuals with a particular focus on opioid prescriptions.
2. Medical claims data for individuals with inpatient admissions for two specific health planning districts in Southwestern Virginia with a diagnosis on the claim related to substance abuse.

UVA would use the information to inform two specific objectives.

1. To what extent patients with cancer are accessing prescription opioid medications for pain relief and how pervasive is the problem.
2. How pervasive is the problem of non-medical use and diversion of prescription opioid medications for individuals Southwestern Virginia.

The contents of both of those files were outlined within the specification sheet that was sent out prior to the meeting. UVA requested geographic information, some basic demographic information, and prescription related information to use in their analysis. They did not request any payer or provider specific information or any proxy allowed or paid amounts because it was not needed for their analysis.

The most granular level of detail about payers and providers would be some aggregate information such as provider specialty or plan line of business. Since Medicaid was identified as a line of business, VHI would provide a review to DMAS prior to any public analysis or publication being released related to this data.

Al Hinkle asked if UVA requested a date range. Kyle confirmed that UVA was requesting years 2011 through 2015, so they could look at the report longitudinally.

Michael Matthews asked if the opioid prescription medications were specifically tied to a hospital based event or if it also looked at primary care practitioners. Kyle confirmed it would look at both events.

Sheryl Turney asked which two regional areas the data were requested for. Kyle said it was for Health Planning Districts 1 and 2, which are Lenowisco and Cumberland Plateau in Southwest Virginia. In terms of the volume, there were about 6850 individuals with a qualifying cancer diagnoses, around 525,000 prescriptions and about 4380 admissions related to their request.

Sheryl asked if the results of this data would be published. Kyle felt that UVA would intend to publish the results. Prior to any publication, VHI would have to review the analysis to ensure it was valid based on VHI's knowledge of the data, and any named payer or provider would get 60 days of review. As a further precaution, VHI would look at how many commercial plans were included and if there was only one, VHI would provide a review to that organization as well.

Dave Neuwirth had a clarifying question. He assumed it was not the subcommittee's goal to correlate the two different data requests together. Individually, he had no problem with either data request. Dave was not sure if he understood the reasoning behind asking for the second request in relation to the first request, other than to find providers that might be abusive of giving out the drugs. Dave wanted to confirm that was not the goal of the subcommittee. Kyle agreed.

Al confirmed that before UVA would go public with this report, they would make the report available to VHI for review. Kyle agreed, VHI would get to review the report before it was released to make sure nothing was misrepresented or any assumptions were incorrect. That would be part of VHI's role to make sure that the report is done as accurate as they can validate it to be.

Charlie asked for a motion regarding this request. Al made a motion to approve the request. Michael seconded that motion. Charlie asked if there were any further discussions, concerns, or questions. There were none.

The request was unanimously approved.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18.