



MA Center for Health Information & Analysis

MA APCD User Workgroup

October 25, 2016

Agenda



- Announcements
 - Updates on FY15 Case Mix release
- New Online Tutorial: “How to submit an application on IRBNet”
- Workaround for Missing MEIDs
- Questions Answered by CHIA
- Q&A

MA APCD Release 5.0



- Application forms are posted on the APCD website:
<http://www.chiamass.gov/application-documents/>
- Data is ready for release now
- Release documentation (including full data specifications and release documentation) has been posted to the APCD website:
<http://www.chiamass.gov/ma-apcd/>
- No change in fees or fee waiver provisions with this release

Release Documentation



CHIA Data » MA APCD

Massachusetts All Payer Claims Database

The Massachusetts All Payer Claims Database (MA APCD) is the most comprehensive source of health claims data from public and private payers in Massachusetts. With information on the vast majority of Massachusetts residents, the MA APCD promotes transparency, and affords a deep understanding of the Massachusetts health care system.

CHIA's enabling statute allows for the collection of data from commercial payers, third party administrators and public programs (Medicare and MassHealth, Massachusetts' Medicaid program).

Please visit CHIA's [Regulations](#) page for more specific information.

These data sets come both from medical insurers and from specialty insurers and administrators of "carved-out" services including pharmacy, mental health/chemical dependency, dental, and vision.

It is used by health care providers, health plans, researchers, and others to address a wide variety of issues, including price variation, population health and quality measurement.

How is MA APCD unique?

While several states have All Payer Claims Databases, the MA APCD has a unique focus on the efficiencies to be achieved by having a single independent agency - as opposed to multiple state agencies - collect data from payers.

CHIA offers the additional benefit of having the infrastructure to work collaboratively with payers to improve data quality and completeness and having the specialized staff needed to normalize data across payers to support cross-payer analyses.

[Sign up to join the MA APCD / Case Mix User Group Mailing List](#)

MA APCD Overview Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">MA APCD Overview (New version available mid August)MA APCD Non-Technical Overview (PPT)MA APCD Release Notes (R5.0)MA APCD Administrative Bulletin (R5.0)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">NEW! How employer participation in the MA APCD can curb health care costsNEW! Key Regulatory Issues Q&A after <i>Gobeille v. Liberty Mutual</i>	
Steps to Request the Data	
Government Requests	Non-Government Requests
MA APCD Release 5.0 Documentation	
Government	Non-Government (Limited Data Set-LDS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Documentation Guide (July 2016)Data Specifications (July 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Documentation Guide (July 2016)Data Specifications (July 2016)
MA APCD Documentation Archive	
User Support / Contact Us	
MA APCD / Case Mix User	apcd.data@state.ma.us



Revised Application Forms



Posted here: <http://www.chiamass.gov/application-documents>

The screenshot shows the CHIA website's "Application Documents" page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CHIA logo, "HEALTH INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS", "CHIA DATA", and "ABOUT CHIA". A search box is on the right. Below the navigation bar is a menu with five items: "MA APCD" (highlighted), "Case Mix Data", "Hospital and Other Provider Data", "Information for Data Submitters", and "Other Data". The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: "CHIA Data » MA APCD » Application Documents". The title "Application Documents" is followed by a horizontal line. Under "APCD Fee Schedule", there is a link to "Administrative Bulletin 16-02: Update to All-Payer Claims Database ('APCD') Fee Schedule (PDF) | Word (Effective January 21, 2016)". Under "Application Materials for Government Entities Requesting APCD Data:", there is a list of links including "APCD Request Form: Governmental Entity (PDF) | Word", "APCD Data Specification Workbook (Excel)", "Medicare Request Form (Excel)", "Data Use Agreement Governmental Entity (PDF) | Word", "Medicaid Addendum to Data Use Agreement (PDF) | Word", "Medicare Addendum to Data Use Agreement (PDF) | Word", and "Medicaid Acknowledgement of Conditions (PDF) | Word". A large blue arrow points from this list to the left. Under "Application Materials for Non-Government Entities Requesting APCD Data:", there is a list of links including "Non-Government Request Form (PDF) | Word", "APCD Non-Government Data Element Specifications (Excel)", "Fee Remittance or Fee Waiver Request Form (PDF) | Word", "Data Management Plan with Minimum Security Requirements (PDF) | Word", "Data Use Agreement (PDF) | Word", and "Medicaid Acknowledgement of Conditions (PDF) | Word". A large blue arrow points from this list to the left. At the bottom, there is a note: "Note: Case Mix application documents are located here." and a "PLEASE NOTE" section with a link to "Important Information for Non-Governmental Requests for APCD and Case Mix Data (PDF) | Word".

Case Mix FY15 Release



- We are accepting applications for FY15 Case Mix data NOW
- Inpatient Data is going out the door now
 - Emergency Department ready in late November
 - Outpatient Observation release date is TBD right now
- Apply for all files now and we will fulfill them as they become available.
- FY15 Case Mix data in LDS format
- FY04-FY14 available in old “Levels” format (can request on the same application form)

Tutorial: How to submit an application on IRBNet



New PDF tutorial can be found on both the APCD and Case Mix webpages:

<http://www.chiamass.gov/non-government-agency-apcd-requests/>

<http://www.chiamass.gov/non-government-agency-case-mix-requests/>

A screenshot of the CHIA website's "How to Submit an Application on IRBNet" page. The page has a header with the CHIA logo, navigation links for "HEALTH INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS", "CHIA DATA", and "ABOUT CHIA", and a search bar. The main content is organized into three steps. Step 1 is titled "Formulate the Data Request; Review the Security Questions; Review the Template Data Use Agreement" and includes a list of questions CHIA staff can help with. Step 2 is titled "Submit a Data Request, Data Management Plan, Fee Remittance Form or Fee Waiver Request Form" and includes a blue arrow pointing to the URL for the registration page. Step 3 is titled "Consultations with Technical Specialists, as Needed, During Review of Data Request and Data Management Plan" and describes the review process. The page footer contains contact information for APCD data requests.

Step 1: Formulate the Data Request; Review the Security Questions; Review the Template Data Use Agreement

Prior to submitting an APCD Data Request and Data Management Plan to CHIA, applicants are strongly encouraged to review all of the documents associated with data release (Data Request Form, Data Management Plan, template Data Use Agreement, Data Fee Schedule/Fee Waiver Criteria) and to identify any questions they have concerning the forms or requirements. Applicants should expect to be required to agree to the provisions contained in the template Data Use Agreement posted on the CHIA website.

CHIA staff are happy to answer your questions prior to the submission of application documents and can provide assistance with, among other things:

- Identifying the best ways to tailor Data Requests to maximize the appropriate use of CHIA data;
- Understanding CHIA's data privacy and security requirements and how they affect access and use of protected health information and other types of sensitive data;
- Understanding the potential uses - and limitations on uses - of CHIA's data products;
- Calculating fees or, if seeking a waiver, providing background information required to support a fee waiver request; and,
- Setting up an account with IRBNet, which is used for submitting Data Requests and Data Management plans.

For information about the APCD and the application process, email apcd.data@state.ma.us.

Step 2: Submit a Data Request, Data Management Plan, Fee Remittance Form or Fee Waiver Request Form

In order to access CHIA data, applicants must submit a written Data Request Form, a Data Management Plan, and a Fee Remittance/Fee Waiver Request Form to CHIA using IRBNet. An IRBNet account can be created through <https://www.irbnet.org/release/public/register.jsp> and affiliated with the Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis once logged in. See "How to Submit an Application on IRBNet."

Applicants seeking a fee waiver should submit their waiver request with their initial application. If the proposed project depends on waiver of the data fees, the application materials will not be reviewed until the fee waiver issue is resolved.

After an initial screening to ensure the Data Request and Data Management Plan forms are complete, and that the applicant is seeking to use the appropriate dataset(s) for the proposed project, the applications will be forwarded to CHIA Legal to review for compliance with regulatory and other legal requirements.

Step 3: Consultations with Technical Specialists, as Needed, During Review of Data Request and Data Management Plan

CHIA Legal will assign Technical Specialists with expertise in data privacy and security to review the application materials. The Technical Specialists will work with applicants to refine Data Requests and Data Management Plans to ensure they meet legal and regulatory requirements. The length of this review period depends on the complexity of the request and the sensitivity of the data sought.

A Data Request will advance to CHIA's Data Privacy Committee when the Technical Specialist has sufficient information to make a recommendation as to whether the data requested are the minimum necessary to achieve the proposed objectives and whether the risk of re-identification of individual patients has been minimized and appropriately balanced with project needs. The information required to make such recommendations includes, among other things: a description of the specific uses of the APCD data and of the proposed research methodology; specific justifications for the data elements requested; and detailed information regarding any proposed linkages.

Under "Step 2"

Direct Link:

<http://www.chiamass.gov/assets/Uploads/data-apps/Application-Submission-IRBNet-Tutorial.pdf>

Application Reminders



1. Don't forget to upload CVs/Resumes for the “core project team” (even if you've previously been approved for data)
2. Don't forget to upload IRB documentation (even if it's been determined that you are not subject to IRB review)
3. Don't forget to upload your Research Methodology, per Section II of the application (recently updated). This is required for ALL applicants.



QUESTIONS?

Question: What should I do if the Member Link Entity Identifier (MEID) is missing?



Answer: APCD Releases 3.0, 4.0, and 5.0 include a derived MEID that intended to identify a **unique person** common across all Carriers and over time within a release. When the MEID is missing for any given subset of eligibility or claims records, an alternative way to achieve linkage is to use the Carrier's OrgID number **plus** the Carrier Specific Unique Member ID as a **concatenated key**:

For APCD Release 5.0

ORGID + CHIACARRIERSPECIFICUNIQUEMEMBERID

For APCD Release 3.0 and 4.0

ORGID + HASHCARRIERSPECIFICUNIQUEMEMBERID

This key will identify a **unique member within a Carrier**, and will be constant across member eligibility (ME) and all medical (MC), pharmacy (PC), and dental claims (DC) data files.

Please note that these OrgID and Carrier Specific Unique Member ID data elements (columns) are present on every record (row) across all filing types. There are some caveats, in that the reported Carrier Specific Unique Member ID is subject to a small percentage of error as reported by the carrier. Again, while the MEID identifies a unique person across all Carriers, the concatenated key identifies a unique person within a Carrier.

Question: I would like to do geographic analysis of medical procedures. My study does not require data from the eligibility file. However, since member ZIP code data is in both the claims file and eligibility file, are there any differences in the completeness of member ZIP code data in different APCD file types?

Answer: In APCD Release 5.0, for Massachusetts residents, the ZIP Code data for the different file types is over 90 percent complete with the Member Eligibility file having the highest percent completeness (99.99% complete) where for 9,778,160 distinct MA resident MEIDs, only 806 MEIDs are missing ZIP code data. So for the small percent of instances where the ZIP Code data is missing in the claims file, that data would likely be available in the eligibility file which has a high percent of completeness.

File Type	Percent Completeness of Member ZIP Code for Massachusetts Residents
Member Eligibility	99.99%
Dental Claims	97.60%
Pharmacy Claims	92.09%
Medical Claims	90.63%

Question: Is death data available in Case Mix and APCD?

Answer: The specification for currently released case mix data have information on expired during inpatient , outpatient ED or observation stay care, on dead on arrival to the ED. The APCD contains data on expired patients but also includes medical setting and non-medical setting hospice deaths. The date of death in the eligibility file is only released to approved Government data users.

Case Mix

Discharge Status

- Hospital Inpatient Discharge - Code 20 – Expired

Departure Status

- Hospital Outpatient Observation Stay - Code 5 - Expired
- Hospital Outpatient Emergency Department - Code 0 – Died During ED Visit
- Hospital Outpatient Emergency Department - Code 9 – Dead on Arrival

APCD Medical Claims

Discharge Status

- 20 Expired
- 40 Expired at home (hospice claims only)
- 41 Expired in a medical facility hospice (Hospice claims only)
- 42 Expired - place unknown (Hospice claims only)

APCD Member Eligibility

Member Date of Death

This Date is only released to approved Government Data Users

Question: How can I determine Massachusetts residents who belong to a Patient Centered Medical Home and the providers who care for them?

Answer: The Member Eligibility file **Limited Data Set** file contains three home health related fields:

Code	Field Name	Definition
ME035	Health Care Home Assigned Flag	Carriers report the value that defines whether a Member has an assigned approved patient centered medical home for this coverage period. For example, the Code 1 = Yes.
ME036	Health Care Home Number	When ME035 = 1, report the submitter assigned patient centered medical home number. It is anticipated that this will be the same data submitter number used in reporting servicing provider. The number of the member’s healthcare home must also be in the Provider File in PV002, Provider ID.
ME038	Health Care Home National Provider ID (NPI)	Report the National Provider Identification (NPI) number for the entity or individual serving as the medical home.

For those with a Flag of Code 1 for ‘Yes’ in MEO35, the Home Health Care Home Number has a 90% filing Threshold. However, the quality of this field exceeds its threshold and is 100% populated and can be used for linking to medical claims and the provider file. ME038 has a filing threshold of 10% and is 8% populated. Therefore it is better to rely on the Home Health Care Home Number for determining providers who care for members belonging to a Patient Centered Medical Home.

Question: How well populated is the type of facility field?

In Release 5.0, the Type of Facility data has a high percent completeness (see frequencies below) and is another field that can be used to determine care setting.

Definition	Type of Facility Code	Number of Claim	Frequency
Invalid Code	0	7205	0.00%
General Acute Care Facility	1	85076261	41.51%
Skilled Nursing Facility/Long Term Care Facility	2	3490844	1.70%
Intermediate Care Facility	3	396859	0.19%
Hospice Facility	4	124762	0.06%
Designated Cancer Center	5	842828	0.41%
Designated Inpatient Children's Hospital	6	170556	0.08%
Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility	7	1022213	0.50%
Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital	8	1424106	0.69%
Critical Access Hospital	9	308420	0.15%
VNA/Home Care	10	48756	0.02%
Other Type of Facility	70	112021814	54.66%

Questions?



- Questions related to APCD:
(apcd.data@state.ma.us)
- Questions related to Case Mix:
(casemix.data@state.ma.us)

REMINDER: Please include your **IRBNet ID#**, if you currently have a project using CHIA data

Call for Topics and Presenters



If there is a **TOPIC** that you would like to see discussed at an MA APCD or Case Mix workgroup, contact Adam Tapply [adam.tapply@state.ma.us]

If you are interested in **PRESENTING** at an MA APCD or Case Mix workgroup, contact Adam Tapply [adam.tapply@state.ma.us]

You can present remotely from your own office, or in-person at CHIA.