

1. Is the request consistent with the Transparency Initiative's goals and purpose?

Yes, DRG's mission is to improve health outcomes for patients across the country, including Arkansas. We achieve this by delivering quality health market reports for consumers, to support their needs as they strategize marketing and operational planning. We work with several providers and market research actors that are using our products to improve the efficiency of their operations and understand the best practices for certain drugs and procedures according to specific cohorts and identify trends from a population health perspective. Our use of APCD will better inform us on the quality of the products we are delivering. We are investigating how our product compares to benchmark data so that we can understand if we are feeding our consumers biases we are unaware of. The data will ultimately help us improve the value we are bringing to providers in Arkansas who can return that value to the people of Arkansas.

2. Are there real or potential conflicts of interest or anti-competitive concerns?

No, this research is part of an internal quality assurance project.

3. If IRB approval is required, has the approval been granted?

DRG can request an exempt from IRB form if required. *For the purpose of this relationship, DRG will not receive, handle, or store PHI in any way.*

4. Does the data request contain the minimum information required?

Yes

5. Does the request minimize the risk of re-identification of individuals?

Yes