



Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative Board Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2019

Board Members Present	Board Members Present (via Phone)	ACHI/AID Staff Present
Jeff Brinsfield Call Kellogg Robert McGehee Billy Roehrenbeck John Ryan Joe Thompson Craig Wilson Doug Weeks	Jill Arnold Renee Mallory Brad Martin Catherine Silva	Kenley Money Jennifer Wessel Miranda Morris (via phone) John Lyon Laura Landers Johanna Parsons

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Cal Kellogg called the meeting to order at approximately 3:05 p.m. Laura Landers and Johanna Parsons recorded the minutes.

II. Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2019 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Data Requests

a. For Review

Craig Wilson updated the board with updates on MyMedicalShopper. Since December, the website has used Arkansas APCD data for consumer transparency in healthcare pricing. Mr. Wilson said he anticipates uses of Arkansas APCD data by other consumer transparency websites.

Kenley Money said the National Association of Health Data Organizers (NAHDO) will hold a conference in Little Rock, Nov 6-8. The Arkansas APCD will be highlighted, and all board members will be invited.

Mr. Wilson introduced representatives of Remedy Partners, who joined the meeting by phone: Pete Hayward, vice president; Samantha Szewczyk, lead analyst; and Jeffrey Dun, manager. They explained that Remedy Partners helps administer the federal Bundled Payments for Care Improvement initiative and discussed their request to use Arkansas APCD data for a project to compare how providers care for their commercial patients with how they care for their Medicare patients. Mr. Kellogg made a motion that the board approve Remedy Partners' data request. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

b. ACO/CIN Engagement

Mr. Wilson reminded the board of a motion made at the last meeting in response to a request by the Arkansas Children's Care Network. The motion was to explore the re-identification and use of data for clinical managed purposes in clinically integrated networks (CINs) and/or accountable care organizations (ACOs). On April 1, representatives of Boston Regional Medical Center, CHI St Vincent, Highlands Oncology Group, Northwest-Sparks Quality Alliance, Arkansas Children's Care Network, and Baptist Health, along with Mr. Kellogg, representing the initiative board, met to explore those topics. No final decisions were made at that meeting. Dr. Thompson said the group will meet again for further discussion. He said issues that need additional discussion include the process of obtaining consent for re-identification and consent time: how far back in time consent should go, how long it should last, and what the triggering issues should be under which it would change.

IV. Linking Data to APCD

a. Research

Dr. Thompson said he is aware of four requests to link data from the Arkansas APCD at the individual level and use that data for research activities in a de-identified way. He briefly described some of the requests. Dr. Thompson said another requester, a researcher at UAMS, is seeking two kinds of signed consent from participants in a study: consent for their participation in the study and, separately, consent to gain access to their re-identified health information from the Arkansas APCD for use in the study. He said he believes the requester's consent process is a good one and encouraged the board to adopt something similar so it could be on the website for data requesters to read and follow.

b. Other Requesters

Dr. Thompson said he also expects a data request from the Following Baby Back Home program. The program sends nurses and social workers to homes to help diminish the risk of poor outcomes in the first weeks after birth and seeks to determine whether there are impacts on the system six or 12 months down the road. Dr. Thompson said he thinks people are seeing value in the data beyond the more publicly facing bundled information.

V. New Committee for Department of Health Data

Mr. Wilson said the state insurance commissioner has formed a new data oversight committee. The new committee consists of the same members as the statutorily created Data Oversight Committee but adds Austin Porter from the Department of Health. The new committee will review data requests that include Department of Health data, such as vital records or medical marijuana cardholder data, so that the department will be informed of the requests at an earlier stage.

VI. Data Intake Update

Ms. Money said an updated version of the APCD is about a week away from release. Commercial claims data will be updated through June 2018, Medicaid through December 2018, and Medicare data through 2017. A slight change made last year was to ask carriers to register every year. Twenty-six have registered so far in 2019. Files received this quarter total 654, and total records processed total 281 million. The number of files received since April 2016 is 14,899. Close to 5 billion records have been processed overall.

VII. Public Comment

There were no public comments. The board adjourned at 4:03 p.m.