



Colorado All Payer Claims Database

FAQs - CO APCD Administration

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Why was CIVHC selected as CO APCD Administrator, and what does that mean?

CIVHC was appointed as CO APCD Administrator in August 2010 because of its multi-stakeholder efforts and mission to help Colorado improve value in health care. CIVHC is a non-partisan independent non-profit organization, designed to foster important changes in the health care marketplace. It has no agenda other than improving health, quality and lowering health care costs.

CIVHC's work as the administrator of the CO APCD includes coordinating the efforts of the CO APCD Advisory Committee, implementing recommendations, ensuring that the database operates in accordance with the legislation, raising necessary funds to support the planning and operation of the database, and ensuring self-sustainability of the CO APCD. CIVHC also identifies new strategies to improve the quality of medical care, contain costs, curb rising insurance premiums and create a more efficient, sustainable health care system in Colorado. As we convene diverse groups of stakeholders across the state, we work to ensure that the CO APCD will supply the data and analytics to support system transformation.

Shouldn't the CO APCD be run by a public entity that is subject to accountability standards like sunshine laws, the Open Records Act, or the scrutiny of state auditors since they are in charge of very sensitive health care data?

On the contrary, CIVHC is subject to public oversight in a variety of ways. CIVHC was designated as the CO APCD Administrator by the Department of Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF), acting with the authority granted to it under the CO APCD statute. HCPF itself is subject to the type of oversight indicated above. CIVHC is subject to HCPF's rulemaking authority with respect to the CO APCD, including how and to whom data may be released, as well as minimum requirements for who must be appointed to the Data Release Review Committee.

How does HCPF hold CIVHC accountable?

HCPF and the federal government have the authority to monitor, audit and hold CIVHC fully accountable for compliance with all state and federal laws and rules associated with the CO APCD.

How is the CO APCD paid for and how much does it cost?

It costs approximately \$5 million per year to operate and provide ongoing enhancements to the CO APCD. The planning process was supported through a generous grant from The Colorado Trust, and both The Colorado Trust and the Colorado Health Foundation provide support for the years of implementation and development necessary to reach self-sustainability.



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What happens if CIVHC doesn't release enough data to sustain the CO APCD?

We believe that the value of the CO APCD is evident to consumers, businesses, policy makers and others such that they will want to continue to support its existence. Should that value not be sufficiently demonstrated and funds aren't available, then the CO APCD would be discontinued and data either returned or destroyed.

What power does CIVHC have to compel health plans to comply with the CO APCD reporting requirements?

The CO APCD Statute mandates data submissions for certain payers, as further defined by HCPF in the CO APCD Rules, and provides HCPF with the authority to levy fines against non-compliant payers. As required by the CO APCD Rules, CIVHC provides notice to payers who are out of compliance and may grant an extension of time for just cause, but it is HCPF's role to issue any penalties.

If a carrier misses a deadline, they are notified. The Administrator determines if there were any special extenuating circumstances for which a grace period might be warranted. If no such circumstances are determined, the Administrator notifies HCPF, which has the authority to levy fines according to its policies.

Were included consumers in developing the CO APCD?

Yes. The enabling legislation required the appointment of two consumer representatives to the CO APCD Advisory Committee, who provided valuable input in the development phase. In addition, consumer and other stakeholder input was gathered prior to determining the list of initial reports available at www.comedprice.org. CIVHC continues to seek consumer input as we develop the consumer-friendly cost and quality reports.