



All-Payer Claims Databases: Current Status and Future Directions

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About the APCD Council

The APCD Council is a learning collaborative of government, private, non-profit, and academic organizations focused on improving the development and deployment of state-based all payer claims databases (APCDs). The APCD Council is convened and coordinated by the Institute for Health Policy and Practice (IHPP) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and the National Association of Health Data Organizations (NAHDO).

Our Work

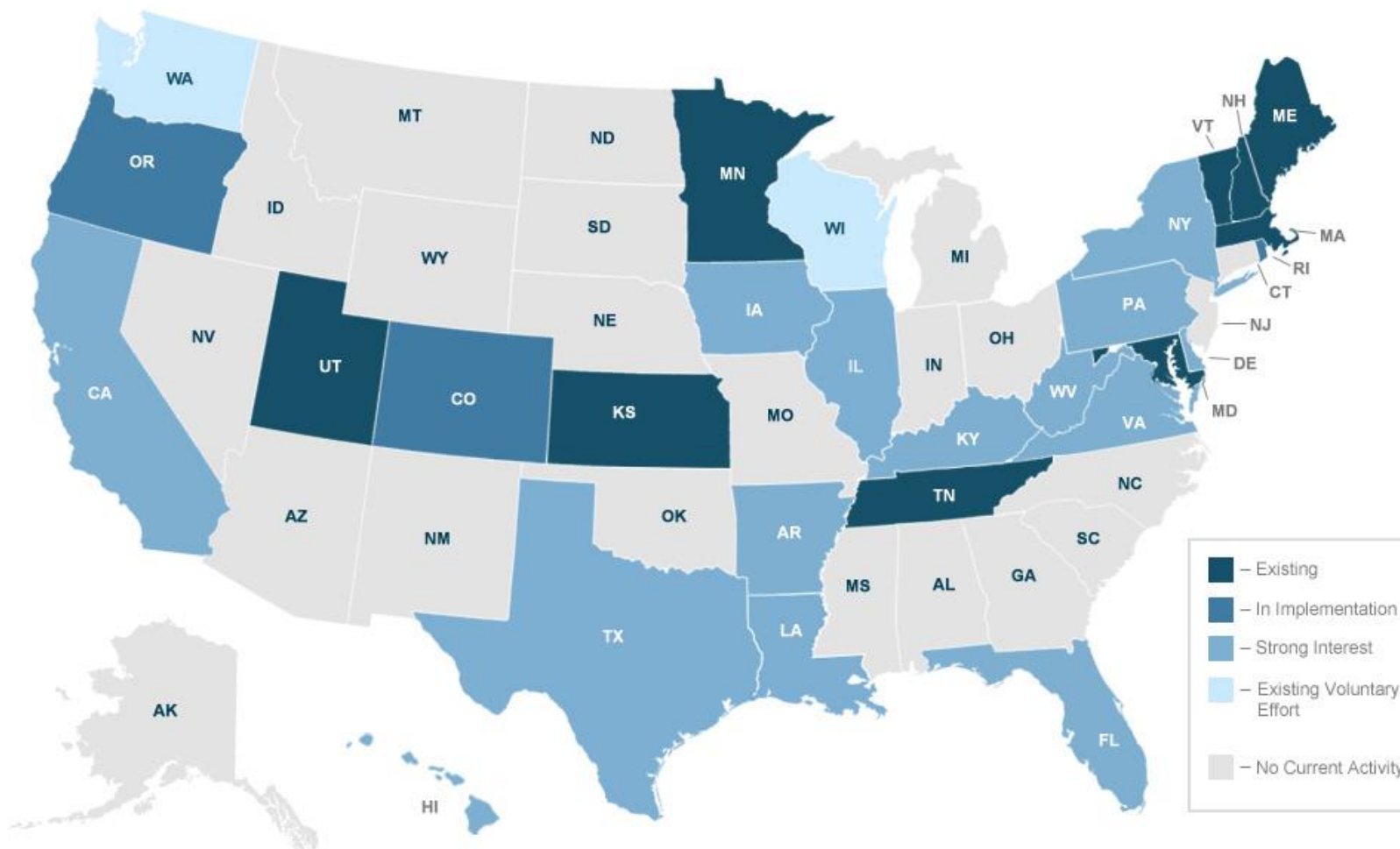
- Early Stage Technical Assistance to States
- Shared Learning
- Catalyzing States to Achieve Mutual Goals
- Advocacy for State and Federal policies

Databases, created by state mandate, that typically include data derived from medical, pharmacy, and dental claims with eligibility and provider files from private and public payers:

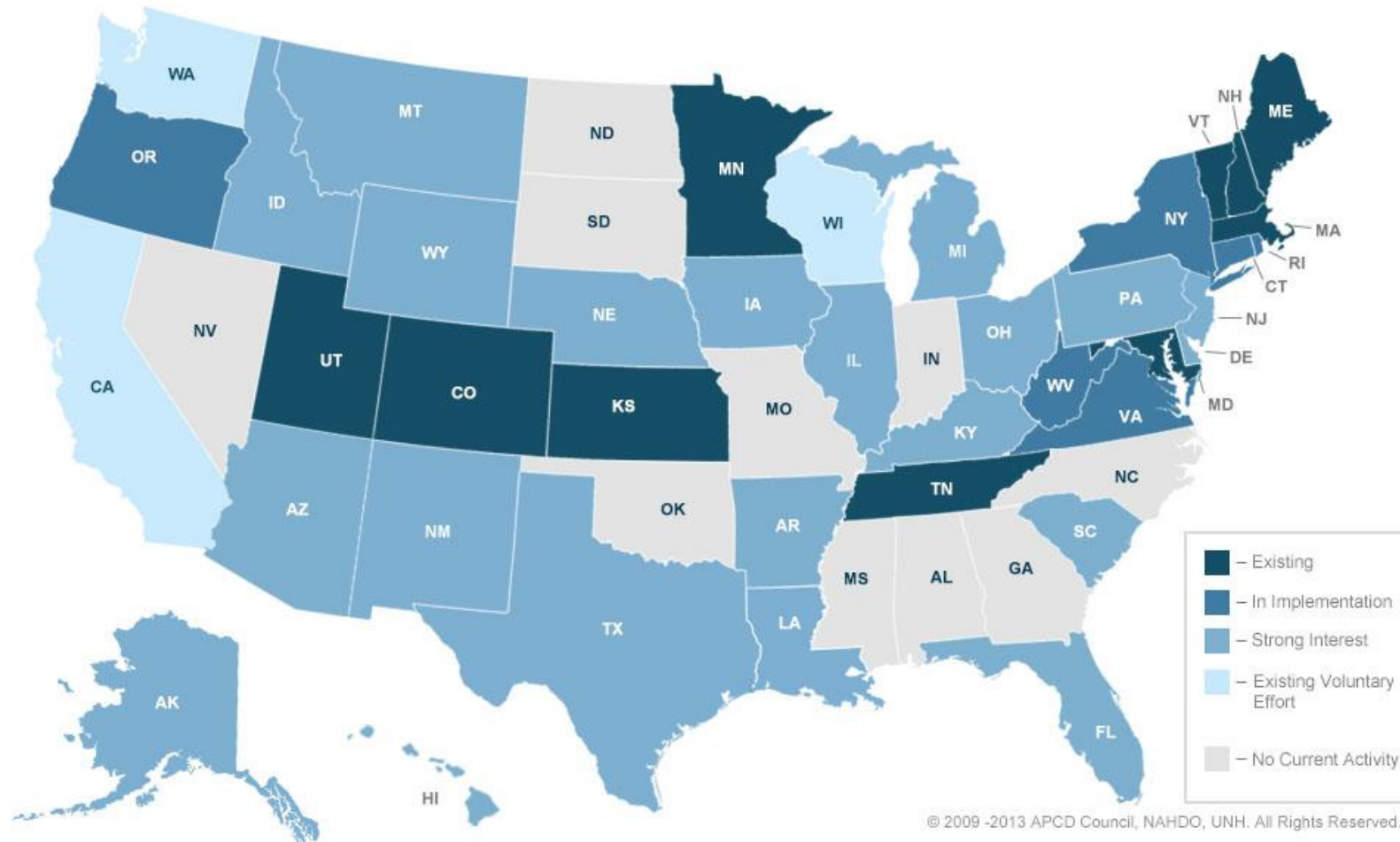
- Insurance carriers (medical, dental, TPAs, PBMs)
- Public payers (Medicaid, Medicare)

- APCDs provide an understanding for a broad set of the state’s insured population.
- APCDs are filling critical information gaps for state agencies.
- APCDs build off of experience with and supplement other healthcare data systems.

March 2011 State Progress Map

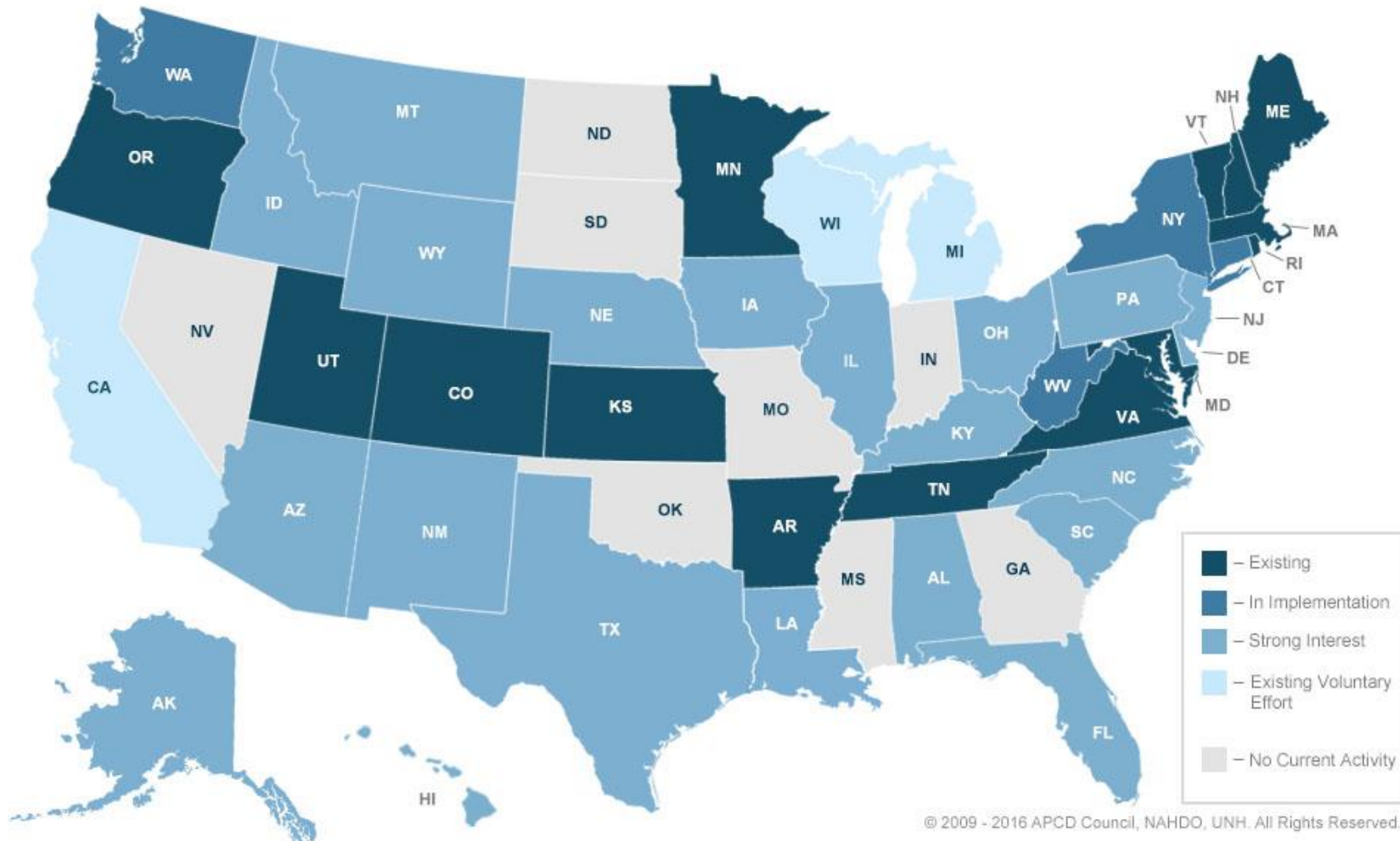


December 2013 State Progress Map

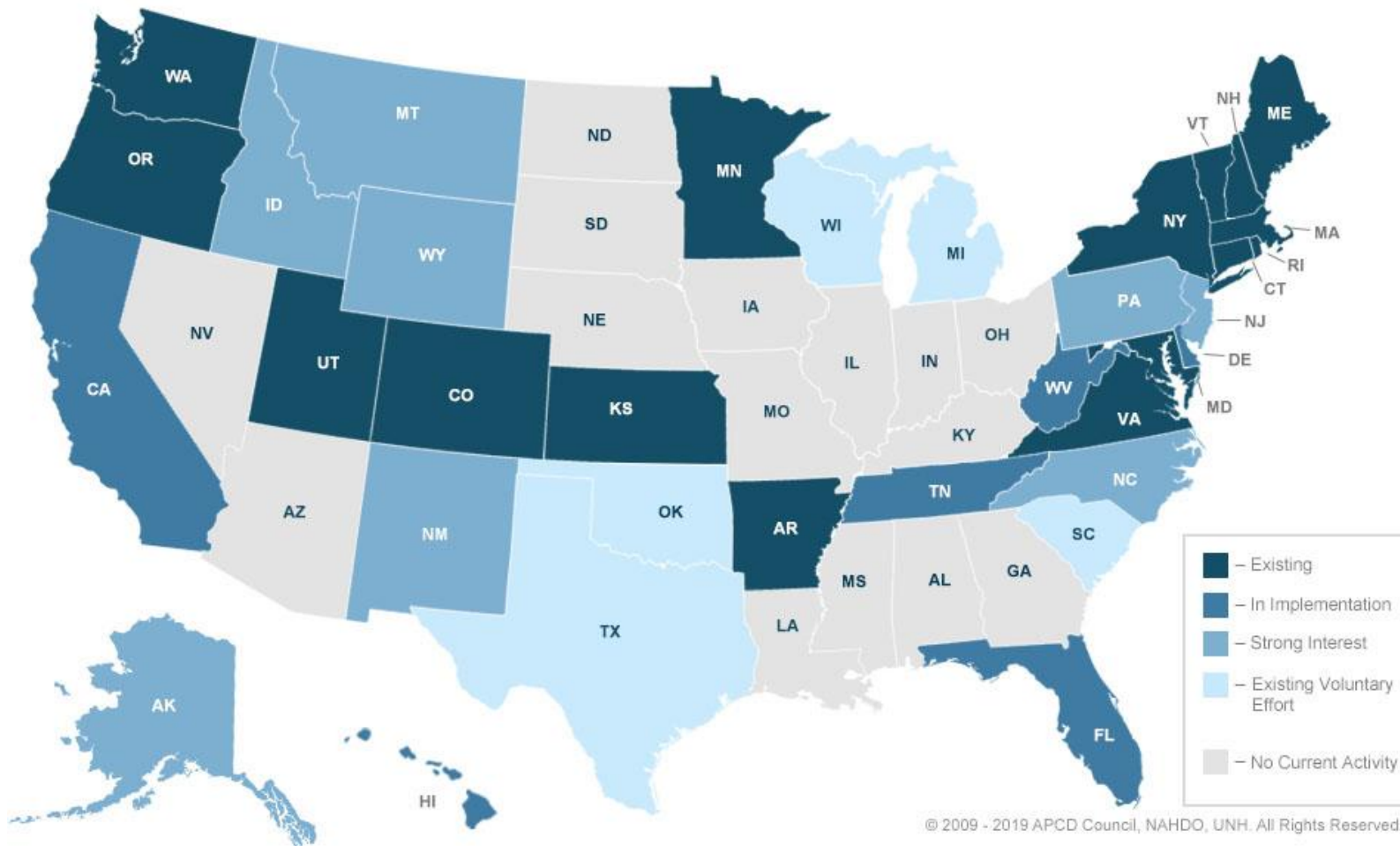


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May 2016 State Progress Map



March 2019 State Progress Map

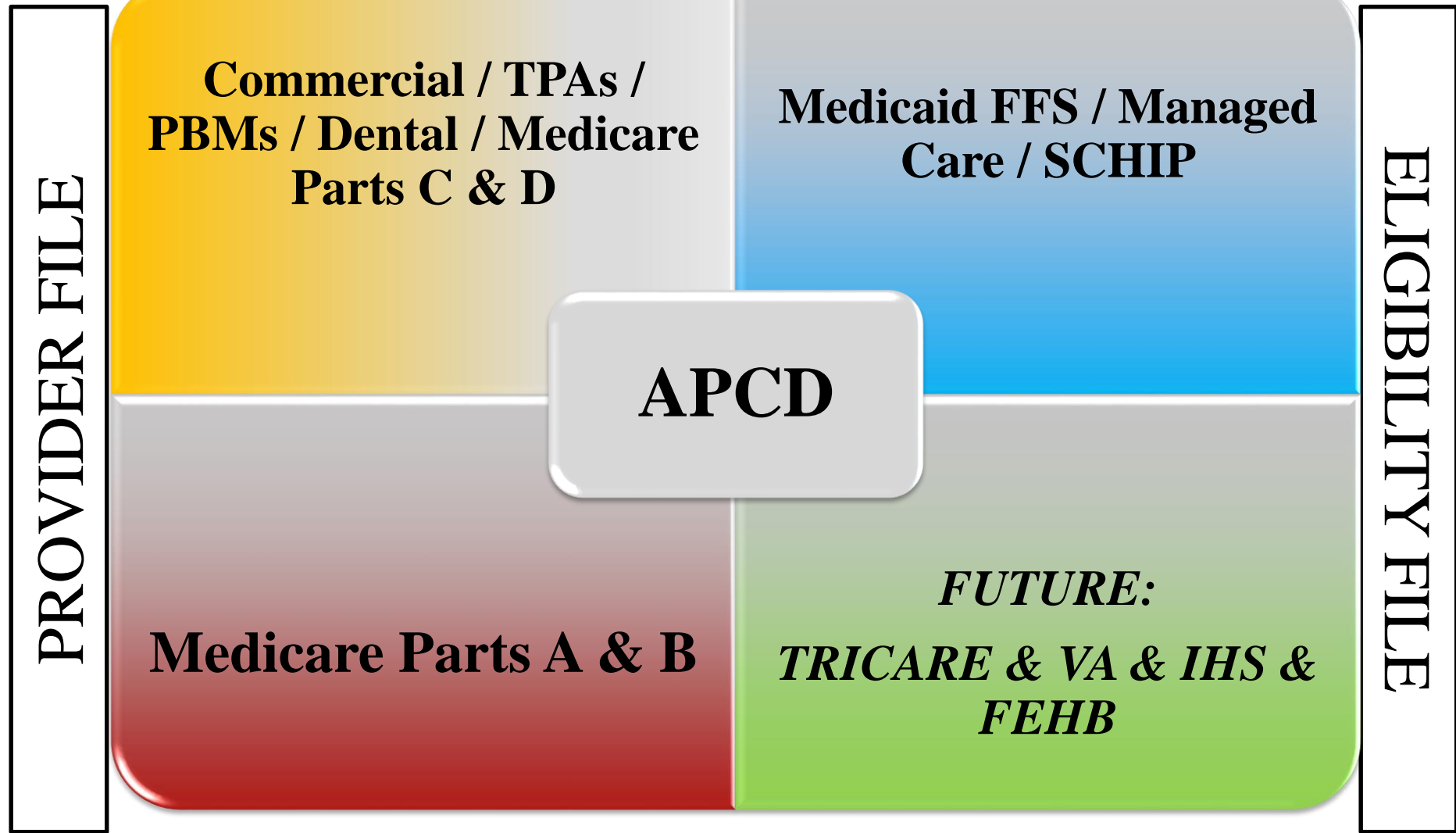


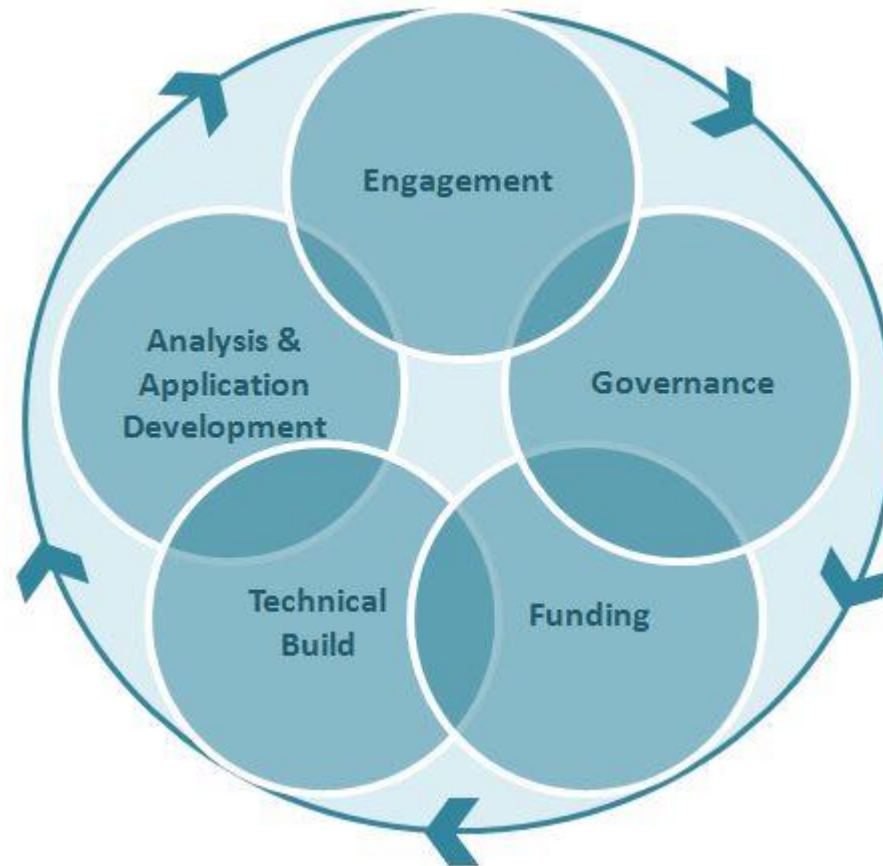
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- Social Security Number (often encrypted)
- Patient demographics (date of birth, gender, residence, relationship to subscriber)
- Type of product (HMO, POS, Indemnity, etc.)
- Type of contract (single person, family, etc.)
- Diagnosis codes (including E-codes)
- Procedure codes (ICD, CPT, HCPC, CDT)
- NDC code / generic indicator / other Rx
- Revenue codes
- Service dates
- Service provider (name, tax id, payer id, specialty code, city, state, zip code)
- Prescribing physician
- Plan charges & payments
- Member liabilities (co-pay, coinsurance, deductible)
- Date paid
- Type of bill
- Facility type
- Other 835/837 fields

- Services provided to uninsured
- Denied claims
- Workers' compensation claims
- Referrals
- Test results from lab work, imaging, etc.
- Premium information*
- Alternative payment models*

* States exploring/piloting collection





- Develop Multi-Stakeholder Approach
 - Form Provider Relationships
 - Form Payer Relationships
- Be Transparent and Document
- Understand Uses and Limitations
- Seize Integration and Linkage Opportunities
- Develop Use Cases

- **Providers:**
 - Quality and utilization of provider and peer group care
 - identify and monitor quality improvement projects.
- **Payers:**
 - Comparative performance of provider networks to statewide benchmarks
 - Identify variation in utilization and cost efficiency.
- **Employers:**
 - Increased transparency in the cost and utilization of health care to stabilize the cost of health coverage for employers.
 - Larger population/sample size and benchmarks.
- **Policy Makers:**
 - Inform support public policy with information on how the health care system is operating and support data-driven improvements in access, quality and cost of healthcare.
- **Public Health Practitioners:**
 - Variation in utilization of health care services to target “hot spot” opportunities to improve population health
 - Cost burden of chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and asthma.
 - Evaluate public health programs

- Understanding overall and categorical costs for care (e.g., CO, NH, ME, VT, UT, MA, MD)
- Consumer tools (e.g., MA, NH, ME)
- Intrastate cost variation (e.g., CO, ME, NH, VT)
- Benchmarks for purchasers (e.g., NH)
- Medical home evaluation (e.g., VT, NH)
- Accountable care – regional cost profiles (e.g., NH)
- Risk assessment (e.g., MA)
- Population health and management (e.g., OR, MA, NH)
- Low value services and waste calculators (e.g., VA, MN)
- Opioid patterns of prescribing/use (e.g., AR, UT)

APCD Showcase

ALL-PAYER CLAIMS DATABASE

presented by the APCD Council

CASE STUDIES

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APCD Showcase: States Leading by Example

Welcome to the APCD Showcase where examples from state all-payer claims databases (APCDs) have been organized in order to provide stakeholders with tangible examples of APCD reports and websites. The examples have been organized by intended audience, and are also searchable by additional criteria. We invite you to explore the site and learn more about the value that APCDs provide to states and their stakeholders.



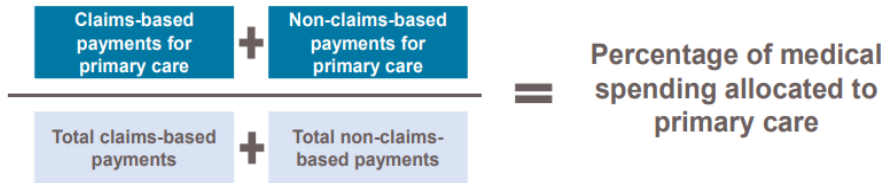
Choose from the categories below or [See all Case Studies](#) >



Estimate of Primary Care Spending: OR

Primary care spending: What's included?

To calculate the percentage of total medical spending allocated to primary care, the sum of claims-based and non-claims-based payments to primary care providers is divided by the sum of total claims-based and non-claims-based payments to all providers (illustrated below). As the denominator, total include all payments for members including specialty care, mental health care, hospitalizations and more. However, total payments do not include drugs.



Claims-based payments

Payments to primary care providers and practices:

Primary care providers

- Physicians specializing in primary care, including family medicine, general medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, general psychiatry, and geriatric medicine
- Naturopathic providers
- Physicians' assistants, and
- Nurse practitioners

For primary care services:

- Office or home visits
- General medical exams
- Routine medical and child health exams
- Preventive medicine evaluation or counseling

Primary care practices

- Primary care clinics
- Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), and
- Rural health centers

- Health risk assessments
- Routine obstetric care, including delivery, and
- Other preventive medicine

Non-claims-based payments

Payments to primary care providers and practices:

- Capitation payments and provider salaries
- Risk-based payments
- Payments for patient-centered primary care home centered medical home recognition
- Payments to reward achievement of quality or cost goals
- Payments aimed at developing capacity to improve care for a defined population of patients, such as patients with chronic conditions
- Payments to help providers adopt health information technology, such as electronic health records
- Payments or expenses for supplemental staff or activities, such as practice coaches, patient educators, patient navigators or nurse care managers

Per-member per-month (PMPM) primary care spending

In 2016, the average PMPM primary care spending for commercial plans was \$44. The carriers' spending ranged from \$13 PMPM to \$67 PMPM. Among most carriers, the proportion of total primary care that is non-claims-based is less than 1 percent

	PMPM primary care	PMPM non-primary care	Primary care as %	Of primary care, % non-claims-based
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest	\$67	\$326	17.1%	95.0%
Providence Health Plan	\$36	\$248	12.9%	3.9%
Moda Health Plan, Inc.	\$36	\$303	10.6%	0.6%
PacificSource Health Plans	\$33	\$249	11.8%	0.9%
UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company	\$29	\$204	12.6%	0.0%
Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon	\$29	\$241	10.6%	0.9%
Health Net Health Plan of Oregon, Inc.	\$25	\$235	9.8%	5.5%
Atrio Health Plan	\$24	\$330	6.9%	0.0%
Trillium Community Health Plan, Inc.	\$13	\$81	13.9%	0.0%
All carriers	\$44	\$280	13.6%	44.1%

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/dsi-pcpch/Documents/SB-231-Report-2018-FINAL.PDF>

To offer feedback or share ideas for new reports, or to find out more about how self-insured employers can safely contribute de-identified health care data to the MN APCD, email the Minnesota Department of Health at health.apcd@state.mn.us.

Protecting individual privacy in the MN APCD is of paramount importance. All identifying patient and provider data is de-identified and encrypted before it leaves the data submitter site and is sent to the MN APCD.



The MN APCD has been certified as a Qualified Entity by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

For further information about the MN APCD:

Online: www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform/allpayer

Email: health.apcd@state.mn.us



85 East 7th Place, Suite 220, Saint Paul, MN 55101
(651) 201-3550
www.health.state.mn.us/health/economics

MINNESOTA HEALTH CARE: High-Value Reports Designed for and by Employers



What are the most expensive health care procedures in Minnesota?
Where are the best opportunities to negotiate lower prices or
achieve more competitive contract agreements? Where should your
employees go to get more value from each health care dollar?

A new series of reports that focuses on variation in health care
prices for common treatments and procedures in Minnesota can
help answer these and other questions.



The MN APCD is the most robust dataset in Minnesota, with more than 100 entities contributing data

“This is eye-opening information for the purchasers of health care. Employers have long suspected that there is a great deal of variation in both the quality and the cost of health care, but to be able to see the actual numbers provides them an opportunity to make better purchasing decisions. Employers can also help employees and their family members identify and access more affordable care.”

Carolyn Pare MN Health Action Group

Reference-Based Inpatient and Outpatient Payment Analysis:

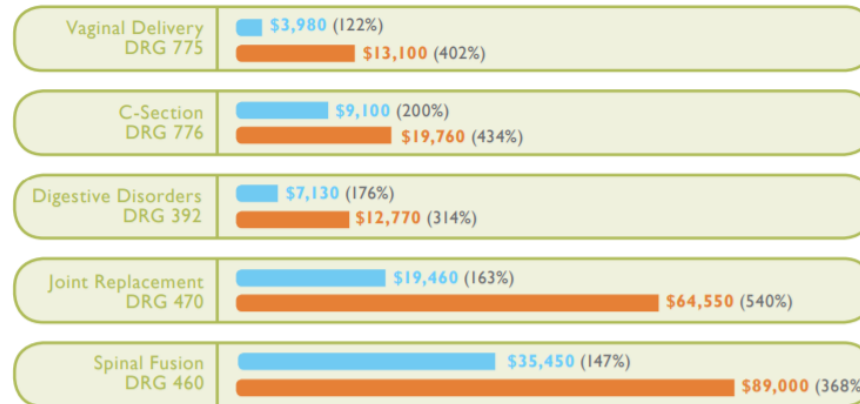
Reducing Payment Variation as a Potential Cost-Savings Mechanism

November 2018



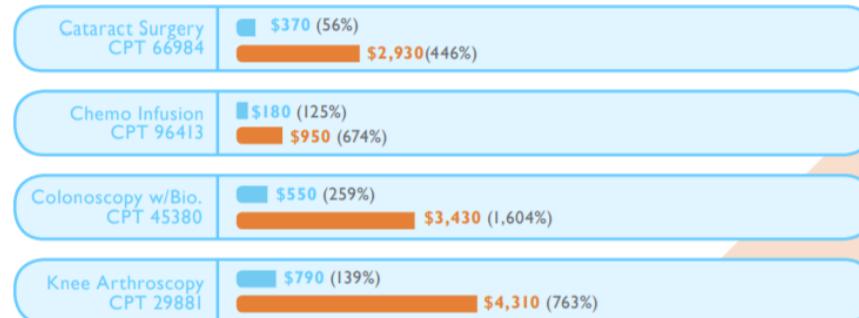
Inpatient Variation in Facility Median Paid Amount & Percent of Medicare 2017, CO APCD

Inpatient Service (DRG) LOW / HIGH (% Medicare)



Outpatient Variation in Facility Median Paid Amount & Percent Medicare 2017, CO APCD

Outpatient Service (CPT) LOW / HIGH (% Medicare)



<https://www.civhc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Reference-Based-Price-Report-November-2018.pdf>



Focuses on opioid prescription patterns among Minnesotans with private or public insurance coverage

Explores:

- Opioid prescription trends by payer
- Patients' diagnoses preceding a prescription opioid fill
- Number of prescribers
- Patients' geographic location

Research on Low Value Services: VA



2016 Statewide Low Value Services Report- Overall

Low Value Measure Rule	Total Services Measured	Percentage of All Services Measured	Number of Individuals who Received Services	Total Low Value (Likely Low & Low Value Combined)			Total Proxy Cost of Low Value Services	Average Proxy Cost per Service	Per Member Per Month	% of Overall Low Value Spending	Quality Index	Low Value Index
				Number of Low Value Services	Number of Individuals who Received a Low Value Service	% of District Members with Services						
Totals	5,551,680	100%	3,043,745	2,045,867	1,573,514	41%	\$766,504,364.30	\$45.32	\$11.13	100%	62%	37%
Common Treatments	358,168	6%	276,741	356,788	377,701	89%	\$6,162,896.00	\$17.27	\$0.18	1%	1%	89%
Don't order antibiotics for adenoviral conjunctivitis (pink eye).	540	0%	538	480	478	89%	\$5,322.32	\$12.34	\$0.00	0%	11%	89%
Don't prescribe oral antibiotics for uncomplicated acute tympanostomy tube otitis.	238	0%	201	106	101	36%	\$2,955.33	\$27.88	\$0.00	0%	64%	36%
Don't prescribe or recommend cough and cold medicines for respiratory illnesses in children under four years of age.	48,546	1%	28,564	48,546	28,564	100%	\$26,623.82	\$6.63	\$0.00	0%	0%	100%
Don't prescribe oral antibiotics for members with upper URI or ear infection (acute sinusitis, URI, viral respiratory illness or acute otitis externa)	317,778	6%	258,381	319,887	256,578	99%	\$5,885,429.51	\$18.84	\$0.00	1%	1%	99%
Diagnostic Testing	696,475	16%	660,846	533,766	551,099	52%	\$273,215,373.11	\$212.43	\$4.24	28%	49%	60%
Don't do imaging for low back pain within the first six weeks, unless red flags are present.	41,304	1%	41,234	31,870	31,808	77%	\$8,202,888.93	\$259.01	\$0.13	1%	23%	77%
Don't do imaging for uncomplicated headache.	28,173	0%	24,793	9,888	9,451	36%	\$11,430,893.03	\$1,157.18	\$0.18	2%	82%	35%
Don't obtain brain imaging studies (CT or MRI) in the evaluation of simple syncope and a normal neurological examination.	2,977	0%	2,836	2,121	2,084	71%	\$3,414,686.31	\$1,609.06	\$0.05	0%	29%	71%
Don't perform unproven diagnostic tests, such as immunoglobulin G (IgG) testing or an indiscriminate battery of immunoglobulin E (IgE) tests, in the evaluation of allergy.	14,027	0%	13,444	8,390	8,017	89%	\$1,913,514.47	\$228.07	\$0.03	0%	40%	89%
Don't routinely do diagnostic testing in patients with chronic urticaria.	428	0%	428	332	332	78%	\$168,522.85	\$67.84	\$0.00	0%	22%	78%
Don't perform electroencephalography (EEG) for headaches.	3,788	0%	3,671	2,183	2,127	58%	\$2,802,108.50	\$1,283.60	\$0.04	0%	42%	58%
Don't perform imaging of the carotid arteries for simple syncope without other neurologic symptoms.	6,867	0%	6,828	2,299	2,171	37%	\$3,915,817.14	\$1,748.58	\$0.06	1%	63%	37%
Don't order computed tomography (CT) scan of the head/brain for sudden hearing loss.	2,923	0%	2,777	1,348	1,312	47%	\$7,205,972.67	\$5,345.68	\$0.11	1%	54%	46%
Don't routinely obtain radiographic imaging for patients who meet diagnostic criteria for uncomplicated acute rhinosinusitis.	10,704	0%	10,567	6,252	6,149	58%	\$17,002,263.94	\$2,719.49	\$0.27	2%	42%	58%
Don't use coronary artery calcium scoring for patients with known coronary artery disease (including stents and bypass grafts).	74	0%	74	74	74	100%	\$14,145.24	\$191.15	\$0.00	0%	0%	100%
Don't perform routine head CT scans for emergency room visits for severe dizziness.	21,675	0%	20,025	14,690	14,234	88%	\$25,429,370.27	\$1,732.25	\$0.40	4%	32%	88%
Don't perform advanced sperm function testing, such as sperm penetration or hemizone assays, in the initial evaluation of the infertile couple.	30	0%	25	30	25	100%	\$3,718.01	\$129.83	\$0.00	0%	0%	100%
Don't perform a postcoital test (PCT) for the evaluation of infertility.	12	0%	12	12	12	100%	\$693.97	\$57.58	\$0.00	0%	0%	100%
Don't order CT scans of the abdomen and pelvis in young otherwise healthy emergency department patients (age <50) with known histories of kidney stones, or urolithiasis, presenting with symptoms consistent with uncomplicated renal colic.	2,857	0%	2,363	2,101	1,881	79%	\$2,748,229.60	\$1,308.06	\$0.04	0%	26%	74%
Don't routinely order imaging tests for patients without symptoms or signs of significant eye disease.	650,667	12%	424,332	429,523	250,400	59%	\$171,182,133.15	\$398.54	\$2.70	24%	34%	60%
Don't order computed tomography (CT) head imaging in children 1 month to 17 years of age unless indicated.	8,812	0%	7,788	6,883	6,787	87%	\$6,869,721.14	\$883.71	\$0.11	1%	13%	87%
Don't perform stress cardiac imaging or advanced non-invasive imaging in the initial evaluation of patients without cardiac symptoms unless high-risk markers are present.	104,359	2%	98,531	15,941	15,363	15%	\$11,183,768.06	\$701.57	\$0.18	2%	85%	15%
Disease Approach	88,363	2%	71,830	56,442	44,804	62%	\$82,151,075.46	\$1,632.67	\$1.42	12%	42%	27%
Don't prescribe nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) in individuals with hypertension or heart failure or CKD of all causes, including diabetes.	53,878	1%	41,068	43,580	33,571	82%	\$1,879,096.32	\$43.12	\$0.03	0%	19%	81%
Don't schedule elective, non-medically indicated inductions of labor or Cesarean deliveries before 39 weeks, 0 days gestational age.	18,722	0%	13,950	0	0	0%	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	100%	0%
Don't perform an arthroscopic knee surgery for knee osteoarthritis.	372	0%	369	372	369	100%	\$851,818.97	\$2,289.30	\$0.01	0%	0%	100%
Don't prescribe antidepressants as monotherapy in patients with bipolar I disorder.	15,164	0%	8,560	2,563	1,817	21%	\$136,800.53	\$54.08	\$0.00	0%	83%	17%
Don't perform Computed tomography (CT) scans in the routine evaluation of abdominal pain.	4,848	0%	4,791	3,642	3,522	74%	\$6,799,704.01	\$1,866.04	\$0.11	1%	26%	74%
Don't perform revascularization without prior medical management for renal artery stenosis.	2,114	0%	1,822	2,102	1,812	99%	\$14,280,476.05	\$6,784.24	\$0.22	2%	1%	99%
Don't perform vertebroplasty for osteoporotic vertebral fractures.	1,255	0%	1,088	1,200	1,043	96%	\$14,713,454.91	\$12,300.21	\$0.23	2%	4%	96%
Don't place peripherally inserted central catheters (PICC) in stage III-IV CKD patients without consulting nephrology.	3,530	0%	3,381	2,866	2,658	81%	\$53,102,305.08	\$18,538.37	\$0.84	8%	19%	81%

Focuses on identifying potentially unnecessary medical services using the MedInsight Health Waste Calculator methodology.

Explores:

- Average and total costs of common low value services
- Comparison of overall low value spending by service

The screenshot shows the NH HealthCost website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Providers, Lab Work Price Check, NH Insurance Market Report, and Statewide Rates Reports. Below this, a secondary navigation bar includes NH HealthCost logo, Health Costs, Quality of Care, A Guide to Health Insurance, Employer Resources, and About. The main content area features a header with the text 'Compare Health Costs & Quality of Care in New Hampshire' and a sub-header stating that the tool was developed by the New Hampshire Insurance Department to improve price transparency. Below this is a 2x2 grid of four main sections: 'Know What You Might Pay' (Compare Costs), 'Know The Care You Can Expect to Receive' (Compare Quality), 'Guide to Health Insurance' (Find Answers), and 'Employer Toolkit' (Find Resources). Each section includes a brief description and a call-to-action button.

Know What You Might Pay
Compare health care costs in the state of New Hampshire by insurance plan.
COMPARE COSTS

Know The Care You Can Expect to Receive
See how different facilities in New Hampshire perform.
COMPARE QUALITY

Guide to Health Insurance
Empower yourself with answers to questions you may not think to ask.
FIND ANSWERS

Employer Toolkit
Analyze and understand NH health insurance information and download tools.
FIND RESOURCES

Focuses on providing cost estimates for common medical and dental procedures by medical provider or facility in New Hampshire.

Explores:

- Costs of procedures based on insurance provider
- Comparison of provider or facility quality of care

MN APCD
All Payer Claims Database

ISSUE BRIEF | NOVEMBER, 2016
**Pharmaceutical Spending and Use
in Minnesota: 2009-2013**

Introduction

Prescription drugs offer important treatment options to providers and patients for addressing acute and chronic conditions. And, although many innovative prescription drugs confer substantial clinical and economic benefits to patients, the steady increase in prescription drug spending has resulted in greater interest by policy makers and other stakeholders in Minnesota and nationwide to better understand the underlying trend in the market for prescriptions.

As they consider key policy questions related to prescription drug coverage and purchasing strategies, stakeholders – including legislators, public and private purchasers, employers, pharmacy benefit managers, and consumers – historically have had limited information on Minnesota-specific spending trends and cost drivers across the entire spectrum of drug spending. Given the complexity of the prescription drug market and the overall scarcity of detailed data about it, prescription drug spending reports are often limited to assessments of spending in retail pharmacy settings, with little detail available on spending for prescription drugs in medical settings such as physicians' offices, hospital outpatient clinics, and other health care facilities.¹ Drug spending and use in these medical settings has been increasing substantially in recent years, contributing to growth in overall health care spending. Yet details about this trend, particularly at the state level, are not generally available.

This issue brief is the first in a series of policy briefs

Future issue briefs will further explore spending for and use of prescription drugs in Minnesota by:

- Groupings of drugs by their functions (therapeutic category);
- Whether they are brand, generic, or specialty drugs;
- Channels of distribution and payment;
- Groupings of type of prescribing providers; and
- Variations in spending, use, and cost by geographic location.

Key Findings

- Spending in 2013 on all prescription drugs for Minnesotans with insurance coverage captured in the MN APCD was about \$7.4 billion.
- Prescription drugs spending in pharmacy and medical claims accounted for approximately 20 percent of total health care consumption that year.
- Between 2009 and 2013, prescription drug spending rose 20.6 percent, with medical claims accounting for more than one-half (55.1 percent) of this growth.
- The greater role of medical claims in drug spending, relative to pharmacy claims, is due to higher cost-

Focuses on understanding prescription drug spending for Minnesotans with insurance coverage

Explores:

- The role of medical claims and how they intersect with drug spending and pharmacy claims

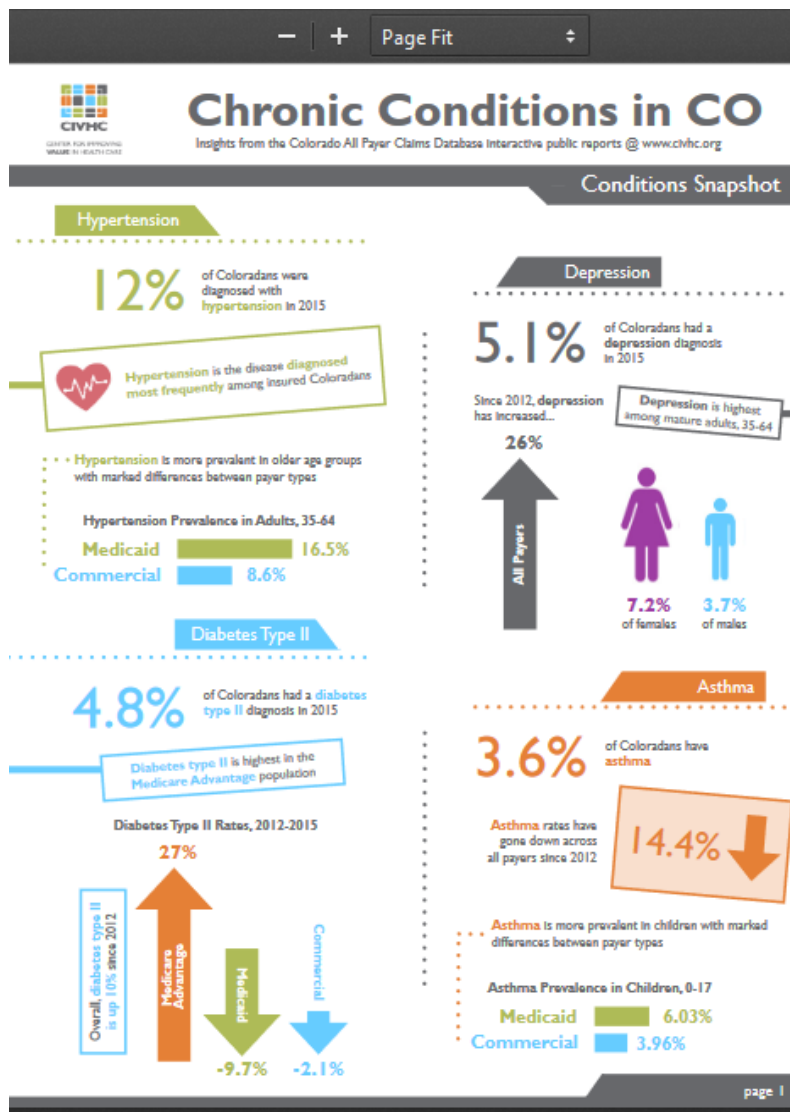
Research on Costs of Potentially Preventable Emergency Room Visits: RI



Focuses on the costs associated with potentially preventable visits to the ER in Rhode Island.

Explores:

- The potential cost savings that could be realized when preventing non-emergency visits to the ER
- The most common reasons for potentially preventable emergency room visits



Focuses on the most commonly diagnosed chronic conditions among insured Coloradans.

Explores:

- Chronic conditions in terms of geography, payer type, gender, and age

State Collaboration for Solutions

ERISA

<https://www.apcdouncil.org/scotus-gobeille-v-liberty-mutual-insurance-company-decision>

All Payer Claims Database-Common Data Layout (APCD-CDL™)

<https://www.apcdouncil.org/common-data-layout>

SAMHSA 42 CFR-guidance to states

<https://www.nahdo.org/sites/nahdo.org/files/SAMHSA%20Guidance%20FINAL%205%2019%2017.pdf>

Non-claims Payments



Key Regulatory Issues Facing APCD States Post *Gobeille v. Liberty Mutual*

- Enforceability: APCD statutes are and remain, for the most part, enforceable.
- Scope: Generally, governmental plans are exempt from ERISA's provisions and are not impacted by the *Gobeille* decision with regard to claims submission.
- Voluntary reporting: Who decides? ERISA does not address this situation. According to state regulators, most TPAs seem to be concluding that the plan sponsor (i.e., the employer) has the right to determine whether the TPA continues to voluntarily submit data.
- HIPAA Privacy: Claims data voluntarily submitted by self-funded ERISA plans would continue to comply with HIPAA privacy requirements notwithstanding the *Gobeille* decision.
- Regulatory authority and APCD 'savings' from preemption: The *Gobeille* decision did not address and does not alter a state's authority to "regulate insurance." The APCD requirements do not have to come from or be administered by the state department of insurance for the savings clause to apply.
- What documentation is required to opt-out of the APCD? States typically have the authority to request documentation or other verification of a plan sponsor's decision to opt-out of (or opt-in to) APCD data submission.

Nothing about ERISA prevents submission of data- it only prevents states requiring submission

These responses are not meant to provide legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. Instead, this is a compilation of opinions and regulatory interpretations that may help guide states as they assess the impact of the SCOTUS decision on APCD efforts.

APCD-CDL™ Purpose

The purpose of the Common Data Layout (CDL) for All-Payer Claims Databases (APCD-CDL™) is to harmonize the claims collection effort across states and reduce the burden of data submission. The overall goals of this effort are to improve efficiency, reduce administrative costs and improve accuracy in claims data collection.

Development process of the APCD-CDL™

- Co-ordinate a state response to Supreme Court decision *in Gobeille v. Liberty Mutual*
- Cross walked state APCD files for consistency and divergence
 - States had made efforts in the past to harmonize
<https://www.apcdouncil.org/publication/history-apcd-council-harmonization-efforts>
- Weekly calls from May 2016- March 2017 to review every proposed field with states, vendors and payers
 - October 2018 states requested NAHDO/APCD Council make APCD-CDL™ available
 - December 1 2018, APCD-CDL™ available by request
https://www.apcdouncil.org/sites/default/files/media/cdl_request_form_2018_0.pdf
 - APCD-CDL™ advisory committee developing a process for maintenance (Jan 2019-present)

Letter to The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chair, HELP Committee

Create pathway to encourage development of APCDs

We recommend that the Department of Labor use its authority to create a standardized process that state APCDs could use to collect data from self-insured plans or that Congress amend ERISA to allow states to move ahead on their own.

Jo Porter
Co-Chair, APCD Council
Jo.Porter@unh.edu

Ashley Wilder
Communications and Research, APCD
Council
Ashley.Wilder@unh.edu

Amy Costello
Standards, APCD Council
Amy.Costello@unh.edu

Denise Love
Co-Chair, APCD Council
dlove@nahdo.org

Emily Sullivan
Research, APCD Council
esullivan@nahdo.org

www.apcdouncil.org
www.apcdshowcase.org
info@apcdouncil.org
@APCDCouncil