



Monthly APCD User Workgroup Webinar

February 25, 2014

Agenda



- APCD / Case Mix Website Tour
- Frequently Asked Questions from Current APCD Users
- SME Office Hours

Website Tour - APCD



www.mass.gov/chia/apcd

A screenshot of a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the All-Payer Claims Database website. The browser's address bar shows the URL "http://www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/pdf-data-resources/apcd". The website header includes the "Mass.gov" logo, navigation links for "State Offices & Courts", "State A-Z Topics", and "State Forms", and a "Skip to main content" link. The main content area features the CHIA logo and the text "The Official Website of the Center for Health Information and Analysis". A search bar is present with the text "Search..." and "in CHIA". Below the search bar are five tabs: "Consumer", "Government", "Researcher", "Provider", and "INET". The "Researcher" tab is selected, and the breadcrumb trail reads "Home > Researcher > All-Payer Claims Database". The main heading is "All-Payer Claims Database". The introductory text states: "The APCD is comprised of medical, pharmacy, and dental claims, as well as information about member eligibility, benefit design, and providers for all payers covering Massachusetts residents. The APCD streamlines required data submissions for payers and also affords a deep understanding of the Massachusetts health care system by providing access to timely, comprehensive, and detailed data. The APCD is an essential tool to improve quality, reduce costs, and promote transparency." Below this text are three links: "APCD Introduction" (with the subtext "View an overview of the APCD and its intended uses."), "Submitting Data to the APCD" (with the subtext "See APCD regulations, data submission guidelines, quality assurance edit, data dictionaries, and database schema."), and "News & Updates". The "News & Updates" section contains four links: "APCD Release 2.0 Information", "Preliminary List of Version 3 File Edits", "APCD Data Volume Reports", and "APCD Fee Schedule". The "Engage with APCD" section contains three links: "View & Comment on Applications to the APCD", "Subscribe to an APCD Email List", and "Join an APCD Workgroup". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons (Word, Outlook, Calendar, Internet Explorer, All Payer Claims D..., Workgroup Presentat..., APCD Workgroup - Ja...), and the system tray with the date and time "9:13 AM 2/25/2014".

Website Tour - APCD



<http://www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/hcf-data-resources/apcd/accessing-the-apcd.html>

A screenshot of a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the CHIA website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: http://www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/hcf-data-resources/apcd/accessing-the-apcd.html. The website header includes the Mass.gov logo, navigation links for "State Offices & Courts", "State A-Z Topics", and "State Forms", and a search bar. The main content area features a navigation menu with tabs for "Consumer", "Government", "Researcher", "Provider", and "INET". The "Researcher" tab is selected, and the page title is "Accessing the APCD". The page content includes a list of links: "Regulation 957 CMR 5.00: Health Care Claims Data Release", "Application to Receive Data", "Fee Schedule", "APCD Data Guides - User Documentation", "Data Volume Reports", "Applications Received and Commenting", "Data Release Committee (DRC) Meetings", and "APCD Workgroup - Meetings and Information". Below this, there is a section titled "APCD Data Release Regulations" with links to "957 CMR 5.00: Health Care Claims, Case Mix and Charge Data Release Procedures (PDF) | Word" and "Data Release Regulation: Comments and Responses (PDF) | Word". A note at the bottom states: "Data Release Flowchart (PDF) | Word (Updated January 21, 2014). This chart provides a reference for the data release procedures defined in CHIA regulations." The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications, including "Calendar - Adam.Tap...", "Accessing the APC...", "Workgroup Presentat...", and "APCD Workgroup - Ja...". The system clock in the bottom right corner shows "9:15 AM 2/25/2014".

Website Tour - APCD



[Application Materials and Fee Schedule](#)

A screenshot of a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the APCD website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: http://www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/hcd-data-resources/apcd/accessing-the-apcd.html#app. The page content is as follows:

Application to Receive Data

Effective October 1, 2013, all applications for APCD and Case Mix data must be submitted on [IRBNet](#). Applications submitted via email will no longer be accepted and all application files available on this website are for informational purposes only. To submit an application via IRBNet, create an account, log-in to IRBNet, and affiliate with the Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis. All of the application documents are available for download in the IRBNet Document Library. Applications must still be submitted to CHIA by the end of month in order to be reviewed the following month. If you have any questions on the application process, please email them to apcd.data@state.ma.us.

- [APCD Data Application - Non-Governmental Entities \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)
- [APCD Data Application - Governmental Entities \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)
- [APCD/Case Mix Application Fee Remittance Form \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)
- [Administrative Bulletin 13-05: Health Care Claims, Case Mix and Charge Data Release Procedures \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)
- [APCD Data Specification Workbook \(Excel\)](#)

Data Use Agreements:

- [Non-Governmental Entity Agreement: Level 1 - De-identified Data \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)
- [Non-Governmental Entity Agreement: Level 2 or Above \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)
- [Governmental Entity Agreement \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)

Fee Schedule

Information about APCD data fees and criteria for full or partial fee waivers can be found at the following link:

- [Administrative Bulletin 13-11: APCD Fee Schedule \(PDF\)](#) | [Word](#)

APCD Data Guides Release 2.0

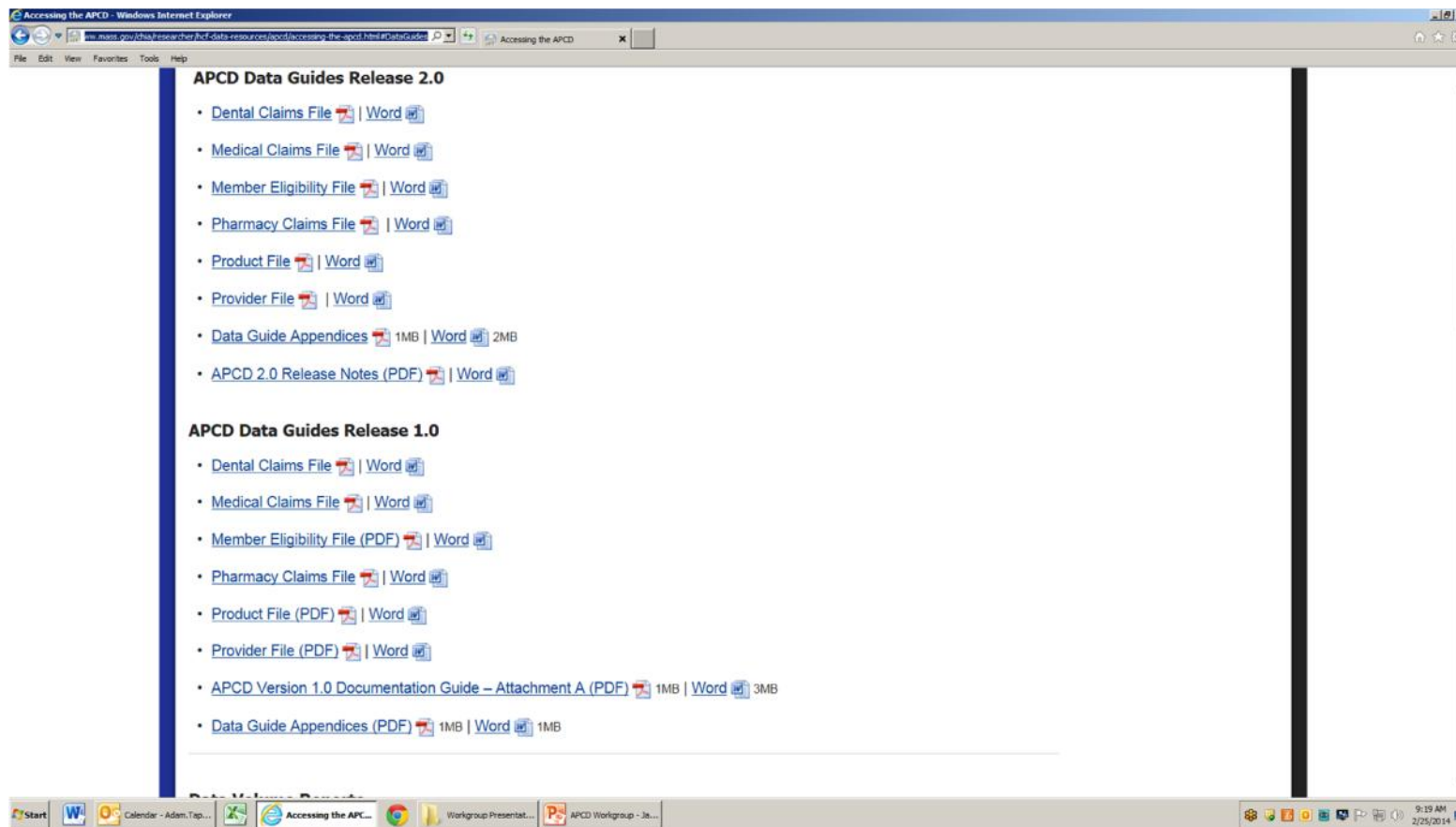
- [Dental Claims File](#) | [Word](#)
- [Medical Claims File](#) | [Word](#)

The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons (Word, Calendar, Accessing the APCD, Workgroup Presentat..., APCD Workgroup - Ja...), and the system tray with the date and time: 9:18 AM, 2/25/2014.

Website Tour - APCD



[APCD Release 2.0 Data Guides](#)



Website Tour – Case Mix



<http://www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/hcf-data-resources/case-mix/>

A screenshot of a Windows Internet Explorer browser displaying the CHIA website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: http://www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/hcf-data-resources/case-mix/. The website header includes the "Mass.gov" logo, navigation links for "State Offices & Courts", "State A-Z Topics", and "State Forms", and a "Skip to main content" link. The main content area features the CHIA logo and the text "The Official Website of the Center for Health Information and Analysis". Below this is a search bar with the text "Search..." and a dropdown menu set to "in CHIA". A navigation menu contains tabs for "Consumer", "Government", "Researcher", "Provider", and "INET", with "Researcher" selected. The breadcrumb trail reads "Home > Researcher > Acute Hospital Case Mix Databases". The main heading is "Acute Hospital Case Mix Databases". The text describes the data collection process: "The Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) collects patient-level data for Massachusetts acute care hospital inpatients, observation patients, and emergency room patients to support CHIA's analyses of such issues as preventable hospitalizations, hospital market analysis, alternative care settings, the patient care continuum, and comparative costs and outcomes in acute care hospitals. CHIA collects data related to inpatient hospital discharges, outpatient observation stays, and emergency department visits pursuant to regulation. Hospitals report their data to CHIA on a quarterly basis for the fiscal year beginning on October 1. CHIA prepares the annual database for each of the three data types available to the public. Data submissions are edited, summarized, and returned to the submitting hospital to verify the accuracy of the records. All three clinical databases are available to the public. It is highly recommended that all applicants review regulation prior to submitting a database request. This regulation established policies and procedures for review of applications for hospital clinical data. As a part of each application request, applicants must guarantee that patient privacy will be protected and are required to demonstrate that the purpose of the request is in the public interest including financial studies, surveillance of hospitals, health planning and resource allocation studies, epidemiological studies, and health care research." A link for "Information about Case Mix Data" is provided, with the subtext "Learn more about the data elements available through the clinical case mix databases." The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Acute Hospital Cas...", "Workgroup Presentat...", and "APCD Workgroup - Je...", along with the system clock showing 9:21 AM on 2/25/2014.

Website Tour – Case Mix



[Application Materials and Fee Schedule](#)

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the CHIA website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: www.mass.gov/chia/researcher/act-data/resources/case-mix/application-and-instructions.htm. The page content includes a breadcrumb trail: Home > Researcher > Accessing Case Mix Data. The main heading is "Accessing Case Mix Data". Below this, a paragraph states: "Effective October 1, 2013, all applications for APCD and Case Mix data must be submitted on IRBNet. Applications submitted via email will no longer be accepted and all application files available on this website are for informational purposes only. To submit an application via IRBNet, create an account, log-in to IRBNet, and affiliate with the Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis. All of the application documents are available for download in the IRBNet Document Library. Applications must still be submitted to CHIA by the end of month in order to be reviewed the following month. If you have any questions on the application process, please email them to casemix.data@state.ma.us." There are three bullet points with links to PDF and Word documents: "Data Application - Non-Governmental Entities", "Data Application - Governmental Entities", and "APCD/Case Mix Application Fee Remittance Form". Below this is a section titled "Data Use Agreements:" with three bullet points: "Non-Governmental Entity Agreement: Level 1 - De-identified Data", "Non-Governmental Entity Agreement: Level 2 or Above", and "Governmental Entity Agreement". The next section is "Hospital Case Mix and Charge Data Fee Schedule:" with one bullet point: "Administrative Bulletin 13-09". The final section is "Applications Received and Comments" with the text: "Below are the applications for Case Mix data. All applications for Case Mix data may be reviewed and commented upon." The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several open applications (Word, Calendar, Accessing Case Mix, Workgroup Presentat..., APCD Workgroup - 3a...), and the system tray with the date and time: 9:23 AM 2/25/2014.

FAQs from Current Users



Question: We received [Element X], but it is incompletely populated or not populated.

Answer: Consult the APCD Data Guides before requesting an element. Note edit levels and thresholds. In the coming months, we plan to publish data profiles on the largest carriers.

Question: We realized there are some additional elements we need, but did not request.

Answer: To request an amendment, please send an email to APCD.data@state.ma.us

FAQs from Current Users



Question: We need to link/define members across the files we received (e.g., Medical Claims, Member Eligibility, Pharmacy), but we are not sure how to do this. Are there variables that allow us to do this?

Answer: Records between claims files and eligibility files should be linked via the OrgID and the Hashed Carrier Specific Unique Member ID. This may not always work, due to variation in submission by the carriers. The anticipated Master Member Index, to be release in mid-2014, may alleviate this issue.

FAQs from Current Users



Question: How do we determine “final” paid adjudicated status claim. Do we use the version identity of the claim? Do we use the fact that a “former” version of the claim is populated?

Answer: CHIA has a standard version logic that’s based on the APCD submission guide. This logic may need to be modified depending on how each carrier submits their data to APCD.

In Release 2.0, CHIA included a “highest version” flag for seven of the largest carriers.

For more details on this, please see relevant sections of APCD Release 2.0 Documentation Guides

FAQs from Current Users



Question: Some Plans submitted lookup tables for medical specialties and some did not. How do we determine medical specialties for those Plans that did not submit lookup tables? Can we assume that they use some form of national taxonomy?

Answer:

- For descriptions of Specialty data element codes, users should first link orgid + data_element_code to TlkpCarrierSpecificCodes_All_Redacted. Then, the unmatched should be linked to the standard provider specialty codes as described in the relevant Data Documentation Guide.
- For description codes of PV029, users should link orgid + data_element_code to TlkpCarrierSpecificCodes_All_Redacted.

****We will be publishing a note related to this issue in the near future****

SME Office Hours

Every Meeting!



- Our subject matter experts are available to answer your technical questions about APCD and Case Mix data.
- Please submit your questions in advance when possible.
 - Examples:
 - “How stale is the data we would get from the Dental file?”
 - “Are mental health and substance abuse claims contained within the APCD?”
 - “Can you explain discharge dispositions as they relate to Case Mix data?”

Questions?



- General questions about the APCD:
(CHIA-APCD@state.ma.us)
- Questions related to APCD applications:
(apcd.data@state.ma.us)
- Questions related to Casemix:
(casemix.data@state.ma.us)

Calendar



- 2/27 – February Data Release Committee Meeting
- 3/11 – Monthly APCD Technical Assistance Group Meeting
- 3/25 – Monthly APCD User Workgroup Webinar
- 3/27 – March Data Release Committee Meeting