

April 2020 APCD Data Release Notes

# Opening Statement

This release contains the following data:

* 2019 Q4 Commercial data
* 2019 Q4 MaineCare (Medicaid) data

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# Documentation Included with This Release

The documentation included in this release:

1. MHDO’s Release Notes (this document)
2. MHDO’s 2019 Q4 Release Report
3. MHDO’s 2019 Q4 Payer Index
4. MHDO’s 2019 Q4 Validation Report
5. MHDO’s APCD FAQ
6. MHMC’s Methodology for Removing Duplicate Rx Claims
7. Business Rules and Entity Relationship Diagrams (ERDs)
8. CMS/ResDAC Codes Used for SUD Redaction

# Reminders

**Claim Consolidation Table Adjustments**

On occasion, data submitters send in revised claims or eligibility files to replace ones that have already been released. In the past, the MHDO has provided information about these resubmissions in the release notes so that recipients of past releases can adjust their analyses. The MHDO is exploring a more formal means for communicating this information as a part of the standard data release process. The Medical Claim Consolidation Table has been adjusted to eliminate any of these resubmitted files. Thus, data users who join to this table will automatically have resubmitted files removed from their analyses. The MHDO intends to begin distributed lists of valid file IDs as a part of future data releases for all file types.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Patient Records, 42 CFR Part 2**

MHDO applies the CMS/ResDAC filter to all data in the APCD, including commercial, Medicare and MaineCare data to redact claim lines containing SUD-related codes prior to releasing MHDO APCD data to authorized MHDO data users; which means we have removed any claim lines that have a code that is included on the redaction list. We leave any portion of a claim that doesn’t include one of these codes.

**Notes:**

* Commercial payers use their own filters to suppress SUD-related claim lines before submitting the data files to the MHDO. The application of the CMS/ResDac filter is an additional measure taken by the MHDO.
* A listing of the CMS/ResDAC codes used for redaction is available with this release and posted on the MHDO website: <https://mhdo.maine.gov/claims.htm>

**Impact of SAMHSA** **42 CFR Part 2 on MHDO Historical and Future Claims Data**

The CMS/ResDAC filter has been applied to all historical claims (commercial, MaineCare and Medicare) in the MHDO Data Warehouse on 7/7/2017. Thus, any data releases after this date will not include SUD-related claims data. The first release of new data that included this filter was the Q1-Q2 2017 APCD Data (Commercial and MaineCare) and Medicare Q4 2016 release on 10/6/2017.

**Identification of Non-Continuing Self-Funded Groups or Employers**

MHDO produced a file in September 2017 of MHDO Member IDs of individuals who were part of a self-funded ERISA employer group for which submissions to the MHDO discontinued in 2015/16 after the Gobeille decision. There are 271,002 distinct member IDs included in this file. You can flag these distinct member IDs in your 2015 and 2016 MHDO claims data if you are looking to create a 2015 data set (pre-Gobeille) that looks like 2016 (post-Gobeille) data. Since the file was produced, MHDO has continued to pursue the submission of voluntary data from self-funded ERISA plans. Some of the state’s largest groups, which temporarily discontinued submissions, have since recommenced. As of May 2019, an updated file of non-continuing Member IDs between 2015 and 2016 is available upon request.

Please note:  The MHDO will accept voluntary submissions from self-funded ERISA plans.  If an employer agrees to voluntarily submit claims data to the MHDO, we request that submissions recommence at the date when they discontinued (usually December 31, 2015).  For analysis that involves a period pre-Gobeille vs post-Gobeille, the MHDO has a list of member IDs that were impacted and that it can make available to the authorized MHDO data user.

If you would like to obtain this list, please contact the MHDO at Webcontact.MHDO@maine.gov.

# Member Match to Eligibility

Overall, the match rate (which represents the percentage of claims that have a matching eligibility record for the member) is high for all claim types and payer categories. Information on these match rates can be found in MHDO’s 2019 Q4 Release Report.

**Medical Claims File**

The overall match rate for the medical claims file is 99.3%.

**Dental Claims File**

The overall match rate for the dental claims file is 97.8%.

**Pharmacy Claims File**

The overall match rate for the pharmacy claims file is 99.1%.

# Payer Specific Notes

**Anthem Health Plan of Maine Inc (C0065)**

Late last year, Anthem notified the MHDO of two issues that affected only self-insured groups.

The first issue, identified and reported in September 2019, was the erroneous exclusion of two non- ERISA self-funded groups for which reporting was not believed to be required post-Gobeille (March 2016). One group has approximately 17,000 members with medical and pharmacy coverage, and 700-800 members with Medicare supplemental; the other group has approximately 5,000 members with medical, pharmacy and dental coverage. Submission of the missing data was made in December 2019. The MHDO anticipated these data being available for this April 2020 APCD data release, but the payer was ahead of schedule and they were included in the January 2020 release.

The second issue, recently identified and reported, is the discovery of missing pharmacy run-out claims for the three self-funded groups for which Anthem submits data to the MHDO. Anthem sent the missing run-out data for July – December 2019 on March 27, 2020. The MHDO anticipated these data would be included in the July 2020 APCD data release, but the payer was ahead of schedule and they are included in this release.

**MaineCare (G0001)**

In April 2020 it was brought to the attention of MHDO that there was an issue with the way MaineCare populates the prescribing physician NPI in the pharmacy claims data. Chapter 243 requests information about the pharmacy filling a given prescription (fields PC018 through PC024A) and the provider who wrote the prescription (fields PC044 through PC048).

MaineCare has confirmed that the PC048 Prescribing Physician NPI that they have been providing is the same NPI that they report in field PC021 which is the Pharmacy NPI. Field PC048, Prescribing Physician NPI should have been left blank because MaineCare has not been collecting the Prescribing Physician NPI. Additionally, there was a mapping error in their data extract process that caused both fields to be filled in with the Pharmacy NPI information.

MaineCare will collect Prescriber NPIs on claims in the near future. They are also modifying their extract process so that these data are properly included in future extracts once they have this element available. Note there will be no PC048 NPI information for their historical data. MHDO will remove the data MaineCare previously provided in PC048 Prescribing Physician NPI field from its data warehouse. **Data users who have received the PC950\_PRESCRIBING\_NPI from MHDO in past data extracts should remove this value from all pharmacy claims for payer G0001, as it is inaccurate. The PC950\_PRESCRIBING\_NPI field for this payer will be set to NULL for this and all future data releases until MaineCare is able to provide accurate values.**

# Missing Data and Other Data Observations

Refer to the **MHDO Payer Index** for more information about payer submitter deactivations and data end dates. As a reminder of our data release policy, we typically don’t release claims data if valid eligibility for that reporting period is not available.

## Medical Claims File

**Mandated Submitters:**

Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. (C0060) has a low ratio of Medical Claim records (less than 100) to Medical Eligibility records (approximately 15,000) per month for all years. This is due to vision exams being the only claims submitted.

Aetna (C0010) notified the MHDO that they inadvertently excluded run-out claims for one of their largest employer groups in Maine for the time period July 1, 2017-December 31, 2017. Aetna submitted the missing data (100-800 claims per month) which are included in this release.

## Dental Claims File

None.

## Pharmacy Claims File

**Voluntary Submitters:**

In addition to receiving pharmacy claims from required submitters, the MHDO receives voluntary submissions from several third-party submitters. In the case of these voluntary submissions, they do not have corresponding medical claims in the APCD.

**Mandated Submitters:**

Wellcare Health Plans (C0053)-Wellcare Company reports data to MHDO under three Wellcare company codes (C0053, C0534, C0749). Wellcare notified MHDO in July 2019 that they were submitting data to MHDO under one code only which was an error. Beginning in September 2019 and included in this release, all Wellcare pharmacy claims are associated with the correct Wellcare company. This payer has approximately 16,000 pharmacy members per month, which represents less than 2% of commercial pharmacy volume.

# Description of Documentation Included in MHDO APCD Release to support the Data

1. Release Report

This report provides a summary by payer and file type of all the data included in this release (Release Summary Pivot worksheet). It also contains worksheets by claim type (DC, PC, and MC) on the match rate to the eligibility file. This report is produced with each quarterly release.

1. Payer Index

This report provides the registration information for each payer by year. It includes both active and deactivated payers.

1. Validation Report

This report lists all validations that incoming data are checked against and indicates accuracy by payer (payer codes as defined in the APCD Payer table). This report is produced with each quarterly release.

1. MHMC’s methodology for removing duplicate Rx Claims

This document details one user’s methodology for removing duplicate pharmacy claims.

1. Frequently Asked Questions

This resource on the MHDO website is available to answer questions about the APCD: [https://mhdo.maine.gov/faqs\_data.html#apcd data](https://mhdo.maine.gov/faqs_data.html%23apcd%20data)

1. MHDO Data Dictionary

The MHDO Data Dictionary is an interactive tool to assist data users with understanding the content, format and structure of the MHDO All Payer Claims Database (APCD) data sets. MHDO has launched the Hospital Data Dictionary, which is now integrated with the APCD Data Dictionary and available at <https://mhdo.maine.gov/mhdo-data-dictionary/>

1. Business Rules and Entity Relationship Diagrams (ERDs)

This documentation was developed in collaboration with our data users to support the MHDO’s metadata strategy. The Business Rules describe the current methodology used to derive the value-added components of the MHDO APCD. The entity relationship diagrams (ERDs) show the relationships between data tables. The documentation will evolve as we enhance the MHDO Data Warehouse and APCD capabilities. This will include the development of analysis-ready datasets and the inclusion of more value adds (groupers).

1. CMS/ResDAC Codes Used for SUD Redaction

A listing of the CMS/ResDAC codes used to filter all data in the APCD including, commercial, Medicare and MaineCare data to redact claim lines containing SUD-related codes prior to releasing MHDO APCD data to authorized MHDO data users.