



**Monthly Meeting Agenda  
January 26, 2009  
2-3pm**

Attendees: Jeff Ross (VT), Craig Schneider (MA), Bob Woodward (NH), Brooks Daverman (TN), Kevan Edwards (MN), Suanne Singer (MHIC), Tim Barthalow (WI), Katherine Pelletreau (ME), Todd Burkhart (NY), Rosemary Teegarden (MA), Emily Sullivan (NAHDO), Helen Friedman (NAHDO), Mary Beth Bonadies (CT), Bruce Boysenault (NY), Jim Harrison (MHIC), Jo Porter (NH), Amy Costello (NH)

1. Welcome New Members

Katherine Pelletreau – from the Maine Association of Health Plans, also on the board of the ME Health Data Organization and Maine Health Information Center.

Todd Burkhart and Bruce Boysenault – from the Niagra Health Quality Coalition in New York.

2. Updates from the States -

VT: In the data collection phase. Have test files and will be working with them in March-April.

ME: MHIC and ME Health Data Organization continue to work on the provider and NPI number issues. Hopefully, there will be more to report at the next RAPHIC meeting. (Communication with Al Pryszunka on January 22: Maine has held hearings for revised rules; board will vote to adopt rule in March. The website is almost done, including Medicare data)

NH: Updated claims collection rules have been released for the comment period (available on the NHID website); hearing is 2/09/09 and written comments due 2/20/09. Legislation has been resubmitted this session to collect claims data on services to the uninsured. The NHID has initiated discussions with providers on the technical challenges and will be meeting with a larger group to continue the discussions. The claims data were used to assist with the benefit design for NH's HealthFirst product, a standard wellness plan design for small employers that should be available this year. The NHID has just released a hospital tiering report for the HealthFirst product. The hospital tiering will impact member cost sharing for services at specific tier 2 hospitals in NH. The tiering report is based on the hospital cost comparison methodology described in the report released this past summer, using updated CY2007 data. Also, Bob Woodward at UNH mentioned that he is applying for funds from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to support a demonstration project for collecting dummy claims from the uninsured to supplement what is currently collected in the NH CHIS.

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MA: No representative was present to speak about data updates. However, Craig mentioned 2 conferences that MA Health Data Consortium is working on. First, with some UNH colleagues, they submitted an abstract for presentation at the Academy Health conference. Also, the Consortium is planning a 2.5 hour conference in downtown Boston focused on APCD. The target audience will include legislators. Craig is looking for suggestions for presentations, particularly around applications of the data. Please contact Craig with suggestions:

Craig Schneider  
(781) 419-7810  
[cschneider@mahealthdata.org](mailto:cschneider@mahealthdata.org)

WI: Seeing some interesting preliminary results from the analysis of their test files. They are seeing, for example, lower than expected use of lipid-lowering therapy in the CAD population.

TN: Is exploring the establishment of an APCD and is creating draft legislation.

NY: There is some collection of claims data in NY, but no public reporting.

MN: The public hearing on quality measurement is set, and they are hoping for feedback from stakeholders during that process. MN has selected a vendor to work with them on quality measurement. The MHIC has been selected as the vendor for data collection. Next, they will turn attention to developing measurement sets for peer groupings for cost and quality.

CT: CT is not developing a system yet, but is listening in for future reference.

### 3. Updates from the Payers

Kathleen Pelletreau asked about rule-making and the attempts to harmonize data submission rules across the states. VT was the first state to start collection with the new requirements, and Kathleen asked if there had been enough experience with that collection to have a sense of how well the rules are working. Jeff indicated that the new VT seem to be working, and that VT is working with the payers on the test files now.

Rosemary added that for Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, they are waiting to hear from VT about their test file. They hope that they will then have a nice template for 80-90% of what needs to be submitted, and hopes that the same will be true for ME and NH.

### 4. AHRQ grant updates

Contract: Convening grant submitted by RAPHIC (via UNH and NAHDO) to build support for standardization for APCD for this spring was awarded. First meeting with AHRQ is in February, which will focus on defining the stakeholder group for APCD standardization. Kathleen Pelletreau strongly encouraged us to have payers represented in the project.

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Conference: 3 year convening grant submitted by RAPHIC (via UNH and NAHDO) to hold APCD conferences twice a year – one stand-alone; 1 with NAHDO. Still waiting to hear.

## 5. Other

Amy Costello will be sending out a request to list more contact information (organization and individual) to current RAPHIC members. The RAPHIC membership sign-up online will be updated so organization and contact information (more than email address) is included.

Next meeting: February 23, 2009

Conference call number: 1-866-210-1669, pass code 5930138#