

Self-Funded Employer Claims Data are Important

The Wisconsin Health Information Organization is a non-profit organization that collects and integrates claims data, and then provides the integrated data and reports to those who want to improve the health and the health care delivery system in Wisconsin. The data and reports are used by state agencies, insurance companies, health care organizations, employer coalitions, consultants, researchers, software developers and others for functions like strategic and operational planning, quality improvement, cost reduction, contracting, workforce evaluation, research and innovation.

The WHIO currently includes claims on approximately 4.5 million Wisconsin residents that are insured by commercial insurers, self-funded employers, Medicare Advantage and Medicaid. Medicare Fee-for-Service claims will be obtained from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in 2020. The data are organized to create a longitudinal record for each insured person over time. This means that all of the care that has been provided to each insured person, regardless of their current insurer or health care provider, can be attributed to that person to create a historical record of care.

The use of the data is governed by the WHIO Board of Directors and in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) including patient de-identification where required. No payer or employer names, or reimbursement arrangements are included in the products that the WHIO offers to its customers.

Many plan administrators currently submit claims on their fully insured members as well as self-funded groups. By providing your support and requesting that your plan administrator submit your companies claims to the WHIO, you play a valuable role in supporting a very innovative and important approach to improving the health and the health care provided to all Wisconsinites.

Please feel free to contact me at dana.richardson@whio.org if you have any questions.

Thank you.

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