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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING:
HEALTH CARE PAYMENTS DATA PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**April 27, 2023
MEETING MINUTES**

Members Attending Steffanie Watkins, Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies (ACLHIC); Janice Rocco, California Medical Association (CMA); Amber Ott, California Hospital Association; Emma Hoo, Purchaser Business Group on Health (PBGH); Ken Stuart, California Health Care Coalition; Anthony Wright, Health Access California; Joan Allen, Service Employees International Union- United Healthcare Workers West (SEIU-UHW); William Barcellona, America's Physician Groups; Cheryl Damberg, RAND Corporation; John Kabateck (NFIB)

Members not in attendance: Charles Bacchi, (CAHP)

HPD Advisory Committee Ex-Officio Members Attending: Isaac Menashe Covered California; Dr. Linette Scott, California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS); Michael Valle, Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

Presenters: Elizabeth Landsberg, Director, HCAI; Michael Valle, Chief Information Officer and Deputy Director, HCAI; Starla Ledbetter, Chief Data Officer, HCAI; Tara Zimonjic, Chief Planning Officer, HCAI; Dr. Nuriel Moghavem, HPD Data Release Committee Chair; Christopher Krawczyk, Chief Analytics Officer, HCAI; Jill Yegian, HPD Consultant

Public Attendance: 65

Agenda Item # 1: Welcome and Meeting Minutes
Ken Stuart, Chair

Welcome and review of hybrid meeting ground rules and procedures. Review and approval of January 26, 2023, meeting minutes.

The committee voted and approved the January 26, 2023, meeting minutes. Isaac Menashe raised a motion to approve, and Cheryl Damberg seconded it.

No Public Comments.

Agenda Item # 2: Department Updates

Elizabeth Landsberg, Director, HCAI

Presentation on department and program updates.

Director Landsberg informed the committee members about the new contract the governor signed with Civica Rx to create three biosimilar insulin products furthering HCAI's goal to create a more equitable and accessible health care system in California. Director Landsberg also announced the Office of Healthcare Affordability had held its first two meetings and is working towards appointing members to an advisory committee. Director Landsberg read a land acknowledgement statement as part of HCAI's goal to improve racial equity in healthcare.

No Public Comments.

Agenda Item # 3: Deputy Director Update

Michael Valle, Chief Information Officer and Deputy Director, HCAI

Presentation on division policy and program activities of interest.

Questions and Comments from the Committee:

The committee inquired about updates included in the upcoming funding report that was sent to legislature as well as about the HPD's ongoing funding plan, specifically about the status of acquiring federal dollars for the HPD Program.

No Public Comments.

Agenda Item # 4: Implementation and Submitter Updates and HPD Historic Data Milestone

Starla Ledbetter, Chief Data Officer, HCAI

Presentation on the progress to date including, submitter outreach, timeline for data collection, and plan for dental data collection.

Questions and Comments from the Committee:

The committee inquired about the major changes to the APCD-CDL 3.0, the data submitted so far, and how much self-funded data has been submitted and if the amount will continue to increase. The committee also expressed their appreciation on the updates to the APCD-CDL that HCAI advocated for, including the addition of ethnicity as well as redefining gender to biological sex and adding a sexual orientation and gender identity field to the eligibility file. The committee also inquired if HCAI was aware of healthcare entities' intentions to submit additional data from their self-funded plans

and discussed with HCAI the importance of reaching out to employers to help them better understand the purpose of submitting their self-funded data to the HPD, so that they are aware of the opportunity.

No Public Comments.

Agenda Item # 5: Data Release Committee (DRC) Overview

Tara Zimonjic, Chief Planning Officer, HCAI

Dr. Nuriel Moghavem, HPD Data Release Committee Chair

Update on DRC activities, membership, and interactions with the HPD advisory committee. Introduction of Dr. Nuriel Moghavem, HPD Data Release Committee Chair.

Questions and Comments from the Committee:

The committee suggested HCAI work with requestor institutions to provide consideration for a blanket institution approval as HCAI will likely receive multiple data access requests from one single institution. The committee inquired about the term limits for the DRC members and the best way to engage with consumers and with groups who are not currently represented by current Advisory Committee members, reiterating the importance of transparency and trust with the public to the HPD Program. The committee discussed receiving annual DRC updates to continue to keep the committee apprised on data release activities.

No Public Comments:

Agenda Item # 6: Data Access and Release: Standard Limited Data Sets

Chris Krawczyk, Chief Analytics Officer, HCAI

Jill Yegian, HPD Consultant, HCAI

High level overview of proposed standard limited datasets to be initially produced by HPD, including relevant design decisions, such as inclusion of market segment, personally identifiable information, sensitive conditions, and Entity and Financial Information (EFI) data elements.

Questions and Comments from the Committee:

The committee discussed how HCAI plans to review data requestor qualifications and ensure prior data violations are accounted for, as well as how any potential data violations once the data has been released would be addressed. The committee also encouraged HCAI to continue to work towards ensuring equitable access to the HPD for research groups and emerging entities who may have limited resources to support access.

HCAI noted that the Data Use Agreement that HCAI has with CMS limits the release of Medicare FFS data to state-only requests or research funded by the state; however, the department will continue to engage with CMS on this topic.

The committee discussed the importance of including data elements to allow for the association of the characteristics of payers and providers to help users better interpret the data, such as hospital types, geographic regions, and health plan product types. It was noted that the HPD is using the APCD-CDL V. 3.01 file format to collect data. Any data elements included in the Standard Limited Data Set will need to be derived from the CDL.

The committee also provided feedback on Entity and Financial Information (EFI) data elements and emphasized the need to protect individual clinicians' personal identity. The committee raised concerns about release of EFI data leading to anticompetitive behavior; for example, smaller provider organizations identified through the data could become the target for acquisition, potentially resulting in further market consolidation.

HCAI is evaluating all feedback received on the proposed Standard Limited Data Set and will be working closely with the HPD Data Release Committee to implement all aspects of data access and release. HCAI will balance potential for anticompetitive behavior against the usefulness of the dataset.

The committee acknowledged that this was an initial design proposal for the HPD Standard Limited Data Set, which could evolve over time. Committee members expressed support for an approach where if payer and provider identity was anonymized, there would also be a means to access entity-identifiable data, such as through a crosswalk table. HCAI will consider this feedback.

Public Comments:

Anete Millers, California Association of Health Plans, expressed concern about the release of EFI and the possibility of anticompetitive behavior emerging because of the HPD and also welcomed future discussions with HCAI to maintain health plan and provider privacy and to continue to align and standardize data reporting.

Agenda Item #7: Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Ken Stuart thanked the Committee Members and HCAI staff and adjourned the meeting.

No Public Comments.