

Public Reporting Principles

To support effective public reporting, HCAI worked with the [HPD Advisory Committee](#) to develop Public Reporting Principles to guide HCAI in reporting results based on HPD data. These principles are listed below.

1. ***Protect Patient and Consumer Privacy***

- Protect patient-level data from reidentification with prohibitions on publishing direct identifiers.
- Follow guidelines such as CalHHS data-deidentification and HIPAA safe harbor.

2. ***Inform Policy and Practice***

- Generate information that is accurate, meaningful, relevant, actionable, and as comprehensive as possible.
- Consider the needs of diverse audiences, and design public information products that meet those needs.
- Consider ways to mitigate the risk of anticompetitive behavior when publicly reporting data.

3. ***Engage Stakeholders in the Process***

- Incorporate stakeholder perspectives into priority-setting for public reporting.
- When appropriate, preview the results with affected stakeholders prior to publication.

4. ***Adopt Methods that Ensure Credibility***

- Use only methods that can be supported by the data and techniques that produce reliable and stable results over time, acknowledging the limitations of data collected for other purposes (primarily billing).
- Use best practices when creating comparisons, including factors such as appropriate sample sizes, meaningful variation, risk adjustment, and statistical validity.

5. *Align with Existing Efforts*

- When available and appropriate, use nationally accepted, standardized measures.
- Consider measurement efforts underway in California and nationally.
- Coordinate with other relevant state agencies.

6. *Provide Information to Support User Understanding*

- Include information about data sources, methodology, and limitations with public information products.
- To the extent possible, use language understandable to diverse audiences.