Standardized Data Formats for APCD Data Collection

1

CDL Group 1A: Virginia's Implementation Journey

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Thank you for inviting us

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What we will cover today

1. Who we are (why should you listen to us?)
2. Virginia's APCD- our structure and how it's changed over time
3. Why we implemented the CDL
4. Lessons learned

Virginia Health Information

- Independent 501(c)(3) non-profit established in 1993
- Unbiased public-private partnership focused on transparency
- Administers Virginia healthcare data reporting requirements- highlights include (but not limited to):
  - ✓ Hospital Discharge Database (including AHRQ Indicators Report)
  - ✓ State Health Information Exchange (HIE)
  - ✓ Emergency Department Care Coordination Program (EDCCP)
  - ✓ Hospital/Nursing/HMO Cost & Quality
  - ✓ All Payer Claims Database (APCD)

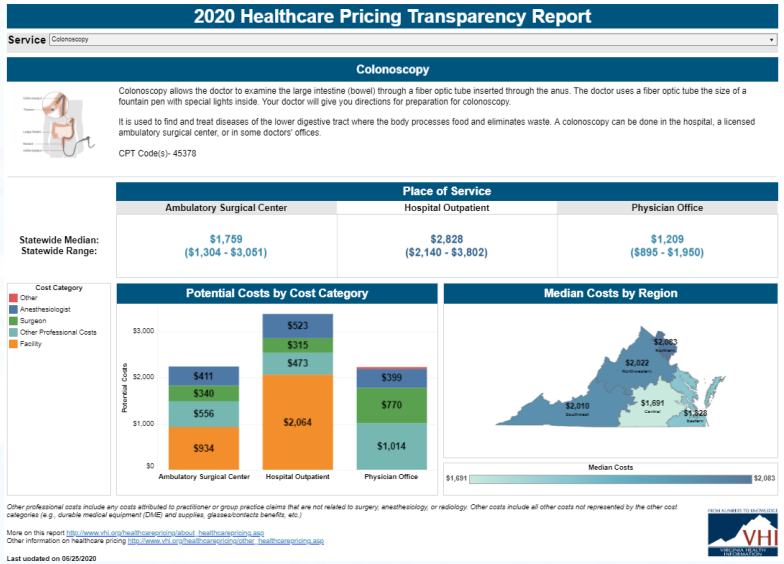
Virginia's APCD- the Beginning

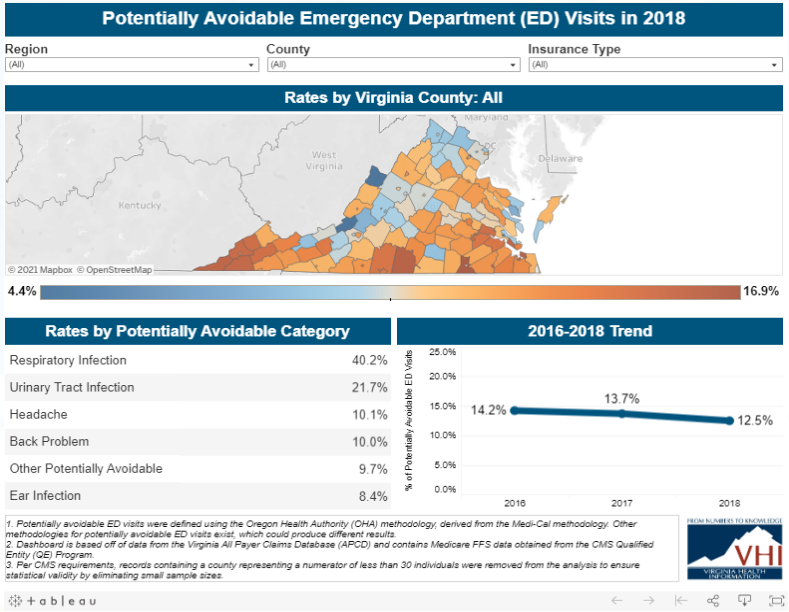
- Voluntary system established in 2012
- **Original Funding**-

  40% Health Plans + 40% Health Systems + 20% VHI (not recommended!)

- **Data Access-** health plans and health systems were provided data via a subscription model, all other entities go through APCD Data Release Committee
- **Data Collection Layout-** driven by Post Adjudicated Claims Data Reporting (PACDR) standard, loosely based on Colorado's original layout

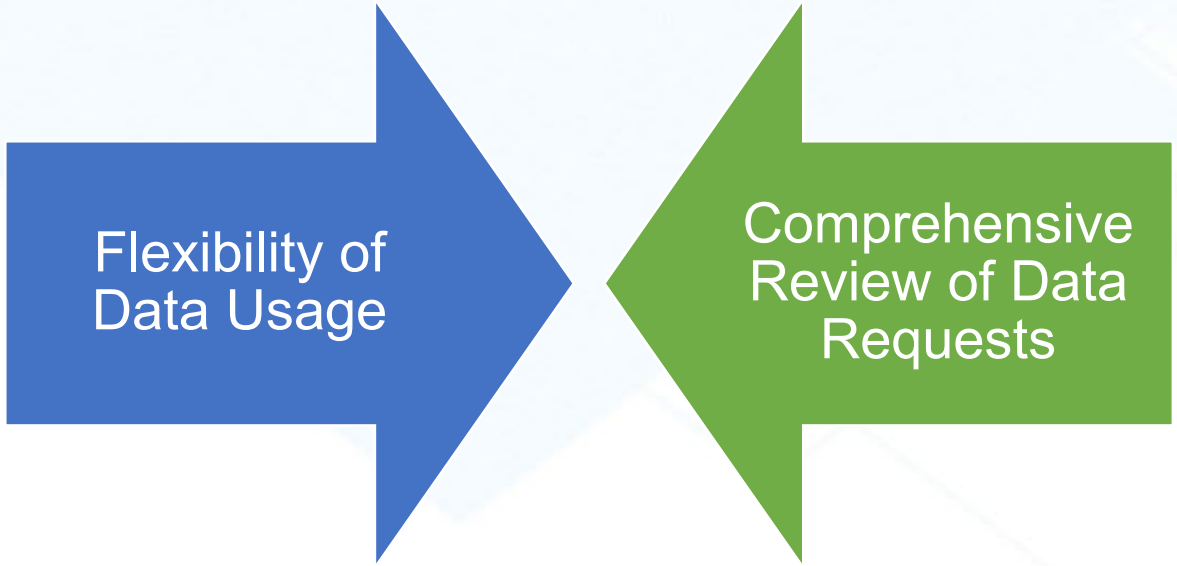
Virginia's APCD- Reporting





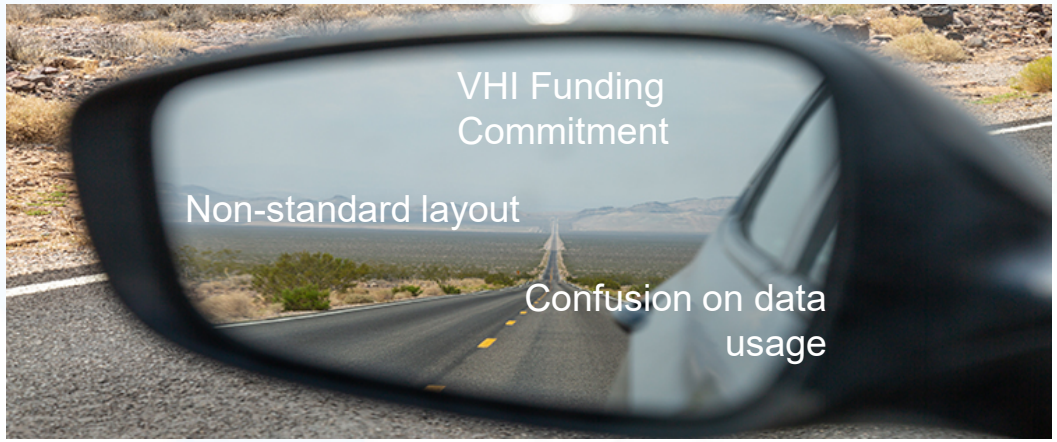
Voluntary APCD- the Good & the Bad

- Participation was good….but not 100%
- Receiving almost no state funding meant higher fees for plans and providers…who had different ideas on what their funding should cover
- Data layout met our needs…..but it was not updated regularly



Changing to Mandatory

- **Funding-** General Funds + Medicaid Match + Licensing/Grant Revenue
- **Data Access-** all requests through APCD Data Release Committee
- **Data Collection-** Common Data Layout (CDL) !



Why the CDL?

- As a national standard, if you have to change vendors it should make things less painful (and cheaper to implement)

- Updating your data layout is time consuming and stressful. Leveraging a national body of experts is ideal

- If we all collect data the same it's way easier for APCDs to:
  1. Collaborate on projects/develop benchmarks and
  2. Assess data quality

Preparing for CDL Implementation

Vendor- new contract, how we collect and use data is going to change (more data)

Health plans- new agreements, communication strategy, CDL coincided with implementation of preprocessor and new plans onboarding

Everyone else- what data will we have now that we didn't before? How much is this going to slow things down?

How Things Worked in Reality

- It was tough to set a final implementation date
- Some typos/minor corrections, several fields not required in VA
- Layout easier to implement by vendor and plans than expected

How Things Worked in Reality

- Valuable for balance billing data reporting
- We are already going through our first layout update in 2.0!

Key Takeaways- Our Advice

- **Stakeholder relations-** set reasonable timelines and be careful what you truly “require”
- **Don’t overestimate the quality** of your first data load, its hard to really get a true sense of quality until you see the finished product
- **Implement the CDL!** Starting out with the CDL is going to be easier than switching to it down the road

Questions?