



CENTER FOR IMPROVING
VALUE IN HEALTH CARE

2019 Public Facility Price and Quality Reporting

Overview

Mid-January 2019, [Center for Improving Value in Health Care](#) (CIVHC), administrator of the [Colorado All Payer Claims Database](#) (CO APCD), will be updating facility-specific price and quality information for select health care services on the public website <https://www.civhc.org/shop-for-care/>.

Facilities meeting the minimum volume (11 or more of any of the services in the 2017 calendar year) requirements for reporting will be included in the upcoming public release.

In preparation for the release, CIVHC provides facilities who will be named in public reporting a 30-day preview period opportunity. We want to ensure you have a clear understanding of what data will be included and how it was calculated, and an opportunity to see your prices and quality compared to your peers before making it publicly available.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is new in this release?

The next release of price information will include additional X-ray imaging procedures and PROMETHEUS episode prices for common services. In addition, [currently displayed](#) imaging procedures will be updated to reflect 2017 data. The services that will be provided in the upcoming release are listed below.

NEW! PROMETHEUS episodes, 2017 data	NEW! X-Ray Imaging, 2017 data	Current Imaging, Updated with 2017 data
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knee Arthroscopy• Cataract Surgery• Colonoscopy• Breast Biopsy• Gall Bladder Surgery• Upper GI Endoscopy• Tonsillectomy• Knee replacement• Hip replacement• Vaginal birth• C-Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neck and spine 2-3 views• Thoracic spine, 2 views• L-S Spine 2-3 views• L-2 spine 4 or more views• Pelvis• Shoulder• Wrist• Hand• Knee• Ankle• Foot• Abdomen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CT Scan Head or brain• CT Scan Abdomen and pelvis, with contrast• CT Scan Abdomen and pelvis, with/without contrast• MRI Scan Brain• MRI Scan Brain, with/without contrast• MRI Scan Spinal canal• MRI Scan Pelvis, with/without contrast• MRI Scan Arm joint• MRI Scan Leg joint• Ultrasound Breast (single)• Ultrasound Abdomen (complete)• Bone Density test of spine or hips• Heart vessel study using drugs or exercise

What year and volume of claims do these reports represent?

This release includes 2017 calendar year commercial claims from over 33 payers representing the majority of commercially-insured Coloradans. The CO APCD includes all of the fully insured and small

group commercial claims, and approximately 25% of voluntarily submitted ERISA-based self-insured claims, representing roughly 65% of commercially insured Coloradans.

How are the prices calculated and what do they represent?

Imaging prices include the member liability and the plan paid amount for the specific Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code being reported. Payers submit data to the CO APCD with the claim line detail included. If a patient's bill includes multiple CPTs or is a universal bill, only payments related to the facility fee for the procedure (CPT code) being reported is included.

PROMETHEUS episode prices include all payments related to the "episode of care" that occur pre-, during and post-service. Prices include all professional, facility and ancillary fees that were paid during the episode. See below for more information on how PROMETHEUS episodes are calculated.

What is PROMETHEUS?

The PROMETHEUS model from the Altarum Institute packages payment around a comprehensive episode of medical care that covers all patient services related to a single illness or condition - before, during and after care is provided. Covered services are based on commonly accepted clinical guidelines or expert opinions that define the best methods for treating a given condition from beginning to end. The payments of all treatments are tallied to generate an Evidence-informed Case Rate™ (ECR). ECRs include all covered services bundled across all providers that would typically treat a patient for the given condition (hospital, physicians, laboratory, pharmacy, rehabilitation facility, etc.). The ECR is adjusted for the severity and complexity of each patient's condition.

For more information about Prometheus Episode definitions, visit <http://www.prometheusanalytics.net>. For details regarding specific episodes, please contact info@civhc.org.

Why are you using PROMETHEUS episodes?

Since the last public release of inpatient and outpatient services from the CO APCD, the CIVHC team conducted an assessment and evaluation of the public reporting methodology used in previous releases as well as by other APCDs across the country. After considering best practices, testing various methodologies and working with hospitals and ASCs locally, CIVHC chose the [episode of care approach](#) calculated using the Altarum Institute PROMETHEUS Episodes of Care methodology. The episode approach facilitates more complete assignment of medical events and procedures to specific facilities and provides consumers with a more accurate estimate of the total cost that may be incurred.

What will consumers using this tool see?

For **PROMETHEUS episodes**, consumers will see the median (labeled as average) "all in" episode cost attributed to the facility performing the actual service, as well as the price range, representing the 25th to 75th percentile payments. Similarly, medians and the price range for facility-only CPT payments will be displayed for imaging services. In addition, when available, a patient experience (explained in more detail below) quality measure will be displayed for hospitals submitting HCAHPS data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

How does PROMETHEUS assign my facility an episode and does it impact my volume of procedures?

The model builds up cases from a claim line level using ICD9/10 codes as opposed to DRGs. In general, it requires more than a single code "trigger" to build an episode of care, and it drops episodes by design when any retention criteria aren't met. This inherently leads to lower episode counts or volumes for

conditions than other grouper software or by searching specifically for a single diagnosis or procedure code.

Will CIVHC be publicly releasing additional episodes or price data in the future?

Yes, CIVHC will continue to publicly release price and quality data on a named facility basis and will add additional services and quality measures in future releases.

What are you using for quality measures?

CIVHC currently uses the Patient Experience five star rating system produced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) based on the results of a survey (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) to provide a quality measure. This information is updated on the CIVHC website on an annual basis, and in the future when available, CIVHC plans to add additional quality measures including the Overall Hospital five star rating. For more information about the Star Ratings, please visit <https://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/Data/HCAHPS-Star-Ratings.html>.

Why aren't all facilities shown for all procedures?

CIVHC uses the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) minimum threshold rule requiring that facilities have eleven or more of the same service represented in the processed dataset in order to release results. Some facilities that are not listed may provide more than eleven of the particular service, but after the data is cleaned and processed, may not have had enough claims to be included. As mentioned above, the PROMETHEUS methodology eliminates instances of services that do not have full representation of the entire episode in the dataset, resulting in lower volumes in some cases.

In addition, due to a Colorado law, CIVHC cannot currently report on physician group prices for imaging until quality measures are available for those providers. If you are curious why a particular facility is not listed, contact us at info@civhc.org for more information.

Questions about your facility specific data?

If your facility has questions about the reports, the CIVHC public reporting team is available to meet with you or answer any questions you may have via phone. If you would like to meet with us to discuss your data in more detail, **please contact us by January 7th** at info@civhc.org or call 720-583-2095.