



Asthma Data Workgroup



MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Asthma Data Workgroup Meeting
Date:	April 24, 2008
Time:	2:00 – 4:00 pm
Location:	Portland State Office Building – Room 705C

Facilitated by:	Rodney D. Garland
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Attendees:		
Cynthia	Ackerman	Mid Rogue IPA HealthPlan
Ellen	Altman	InterCommunity Health Network
Susan	Arbor	Oregon Division of Medical Assistance Programs
Mike	Brooks	Lane Individual Practice Association; Agate Resources
David	Dowler	Program Design and Evaluation Services
Donna	Erbs	Kaiser Permanente
Julie	Guenette	Acumentra Health
Alan	Johnson	CareOregon
Edith	Kotbagi	ODS
Kati	Moseley	Oregon Asthma Program
Prasad	Ravi	Kaiser Permanente
Tracy	Scham	Providence Health Plans
Art	Sprenkle	McKesson
Artie	Veira	Providence Health Plans
Apologies:		
Susan	Good	Oregon Division of Medical Assistance Programs

Discussion Points
<p>1. ADWG discussed potential changes in the technical specifications for the ADWG and the Division of Medical Assistance Programs (DMAP) - Quality and Performance Improvement Workgroup (QPI) technical specifications.</p> <p>The discussion focused on the fact that age groups used for asthma measures by ADWG and DMAP-QPI are off by one year from the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) age groups. In ADWG we use age groups of 4-8, 9-16, 17-55 and the sum of those ages (4-55). HEDIS uses 5-9, 9-17, 18-56 and the sum of those ages (5-56). The reason for the difference was that originally the age was determined from the end of the year prior to the measurement year (for example, for the 2006 measurement year you determined age from 2005). This method for determining age changed to the measurement year (ages for the 2006 measurement year are determined in 2006). ADWG discussed aligning the age groups back to the HEDIS specification. ADWG decided to maintain the current age groups because the Oregon Health Plan Performance Improvement Plan for asthma uses the 4-55 age groups. We will revisit age each year as technical specifications are updated.</p>



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Discussion Points
<p>Providence pointed out a major change in the HEDIS drug lists. In the HEDIS 2008 technical specifications for asthma the asthma medications were separated into two tables and the medications listed for the HEDIS indicator for numerator and denominator changed. The Oregon Asthma Program will investigate the impact of these changes and report back to the ADWG.</p>
<p>2. The Oregon Asthma Program presented data from the ADWG and DMAP-QPI from the 2006 measurement year. Discussion on these measures included presenting data by age groups in the future and limitations of the asthma data. Additional discuss on the measures focused on how different health plans may calculate the measures differently and some plans may have issues related to coding of data from urgent care facilities that will effect summation of emergency room visits, outpatient visits and/or hospitalizations. ADWG discussed possible tools to help plan analysts with collaboration and coordination.</p>
<p>3. David Dowler with Program Design and Evaluation Services discussed an evaluation of <i>The Guide to Improving Asthma Care in Oregon</i>. ADWG provided David with additional people to contact for interviews for this evaluation, potential question for the evaluation and discussed the purpose of the evaluation.</p>
<p>4. ADWG determined agenda topics for the next meeting. Two topics were agreed upon: a presentation on the current knowledge and use of the medication ratio and asthma registries and their use in Oregon.</p>

Action Items	Owner	Due date
1. The Asthma Epidemiologist will review HEDIS 2008 asthma medications changes and the impact on the ADWG and DMAP-QPI technical specifications and report back.	Rodney Garland	May 5, 2008
2. The Asthma Epidemiologist will look into possible collaboration tools to facilitate analysts from participating plans to share information and methods.	Rodney Garland	July 24, 2008
3. The Asthma Epidemiologist will contact Kaiser Permanente to arrange for a presentation on the asthma medication ratio.	Rodney Garland	May 16, 2008
4. The Asthma Epidemiologist will contact various plans to present information on asthma registries and how they use to help their clients.	Rodney Garland	May 30, 2008