

# Obtaining Medicare Data for MHCQ Demonstration Project

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# Potential Uses of Medicare Data

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- To prepare application for MHCQ Demonstration
- To conduct internal evaluation of MHCQ project
- To identify relevant demonstration population
- To create comparison population(s)
- To develop outcome measures of quality – a.k.a. performance standards
  - Process of care
  - Outcomes of care
  - Mortality
- To measure costs and cost-savings

# Sources of Assistance

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- **ResDAC - Research Data Assistance Center**
  - University of Minnesota School of Public Health
  - Day-long or multi-day workshops
  - Assistance Desk – 7 Masters-level trained Technical Advisors backed by faculty
  - Types of assistance: study design; matching the data with the research question; data definitions and data file layouts; data availability and access; what you get and how to deal with it.
- **RDDC - CMS Research Data Distribution Center**
  - Acumen LLC, Burlingame CA
  - Maintains 100% of enrollment/claim files 1997-2004
  - Deliver data sets tailored to precise selection criteria

# How to Contact ResDAC Assistance Desk

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- Phone
  - Toll free: 888-9ResDAC (888-973-7322 )
- email
  - [resdac@umn.edu](mailto:resdac@umn.edu)
- WEB
  - [www.resdac.umn.edu](http://www.resdac.umn.edu) (information)
  - [resdac.oit.umn.edu](http://resdac.oit.umn.edu) (request assistance)

# Data Sources of Potential Interest

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- Research Identifiable Files (RIFs)
  - RIF Data Request Packet
  - CMS Privacy Board approval
  - Cost of files
- Limited Data Sets (LDS)
  - LDS Research Application
  - Still need a Data Use Agreement
  - Cost of files
- Public Use Files (PUFs), or non-Identifiable Data Files

# Files of Potential Interest

(Research Identifiable and Limited Data Sets)

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- Denominator
- MedPAR
- Standard Analytic Files (SAFs)
  - In-patient, SNF, Outpatient, Carrier, DME, Home Health Agency, Hospice
- Outcomes and Assessment Information Set (OASIS)
- Long Term Care Minimum Data Set (MDS)

# Files of Potential Interest

## (Public Use Files)

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- Provider of Services File
  - Location
  - Beds
  - Affiliations
- Hospital Service Area
- UPIN – (Unique Physician Identifier File)
- Cost Reports

# Content of Medicare Data Files

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- Demographic and other beneficiary information
- Provider information
  - Institutional
  - Physician and “other suppliers”
- Diagnosis information
- Procedure information
- “Cost” information – **the Cost to Medicare**
- Cost report information
- Functional status information



# Beneficiary Information

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- Medicare **H**ealth **I**nsurance **C**laim number (HIC) (also called HICAN)
  - Allows linking of data to other sources
  - Allows matching to person-level claims information
- Age, gender, race
- Place of residence (state, county, zip code)
- Reason for Medicare entitlement
- Part A and Part B participation – by month
- Dual eligible” – by month

MEDICARE



HEALTH INSURANCE

SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

NAME OF BENEFICIARY

JOHN D. DOE

MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER

123-45-6789A

SEX

MALE

IS ENTITLED TO

EFFECTIVE DATE

HOSPITAL INSURANCE (PART A)

1/1/95

MEDICAL INSURANCE (PART B)

1/1/95

SIGN  
HERE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Doe", is written over a horizontal line. A blue arrow points to the start of the signature line.

# Physician and Other Part B Provider Information

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- PIN – Provider Identification Number
- UPIN – Unique Physician Identification Number
- Provider specialty – not just physician specialty and subspecialty
- Location of practice

# Medicare Data Extracts Provided Through RDDC

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- Data extracts tailored to specific selection criteria
  - Particular beneficiary population based on:
    - List of HICs supplied by requestor
    - Demographic characteristics
    - Geographic location (e.g., zip code)
    - Diagnoses
    - Procedures
    - Treatment by specific provider groups
  - Select claims of particular provider group
- Data provided in readily usable formats
  - Output formats include SAS & comma-delimited files
  - Raw claims data or simpler research extracts
  - All forms of media (e.g., DVDs, USB drives)

# Possible Input from Bidders in Requesting Medicare Data

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- List of HICs (Medicare **H**ealth **I**nsurance **C**laim numbers)
- Demographic or enrollment selection criteria
- Geographic locators (e.g., zip codes)
  - For beneficiaries
  - For providers
- Selection criteria based on diagnoses
- Selection criteria based on procedures
- Selection criteria based on costs
- Provider identification numbers
  - Institutional
  - Non-institutional

END

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