

Driving Transformation in Health Care

The Washington All-Payer Claims Database brings together health care data for residents across the state to illuminate and understand the quality, cost, and value of services being delivered.

The WA-APCD was years in the making and went live this past summer. Consumers will find the award-winning website an easy way to estimate costs and learn more about quality. The real muscle of the database, however, is in what it provides to researchers and policymakers who are trying to answer health care's most complicated questions (*see sidebar for examples*).

This is just the beginning. The data users and experts who are managing the WA-APCD are continually working together to improve both the data and the architecture needed to make the most of this unique and complex dataset. Washington state families can't afford to delay the health care quality and cost improvements being fueled by the WA-APCD.

“*The APCD data will let us understand patterns like variations in cost and utilization of services across communities, and see how these shift in response to transformation efforts. ... Having cost data included also gives us information that's critical for developing transformative payment models.*”

Eli Kern

Epidemiologist, Seattle and King County Public Health

What is the true financial cost of diabetes for different populations?

-WA Department of Health

Does recovery time for workers compensation patients depend on where they live?

-WA Department of Labor & Industries

What health services are used most often by different categories of Medicaid patients?

-Public Health Seattle & King County
Accountable Community of Health

Do patients have different back surgery outcomes, based on what kind of insurance they have?

-WA Health Care Authority

How can we stabilize the insurance market and ensure our customers are getting the best value?

-WA Health Benefit Exchange

How can we improve opioid prescribing and drug cost transparency?

-WA Office of Financial Management