

## The APAC Vendor Transition is complete – now what?

In January 2021, the All Payer All Claims (APAC) Program completed the transition to Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) from the previous vendor, Milliman Solutions.

### What does this mean for data users?

- **The new system is more transparent**, with fewer proprietary elements. With HSRI, the logic or algorithm used to process or compute most fields is fully available.
- **The number of individuals included in APAC is different than it was with the previous vendor.**
  - HSRI uses different statistical methodology than the previous vendor to create a unique person identifier over time and across payers. Please see unique person identifier information for more details.
  - There is a higher count of individuals in the HSRI system based on the same data as the previous proprietary system.
  - APAC is continuing to work with HSRI to bring the number of unique individuals as close as possible to expectations based on the Oregon population. We do not expect a perfect match because APAC does not and has not ever collected Social Security numbers.
- **Analyses of trends over time should not compare Milliman data sets – those received from APAC in 2020 or before – to HSRI data sets.**
  - All data received by Milliman during the ten-year contract with APAC was transferred to HSRI. *This means longitudinal data analysis can still occur.* APAC will replace datasets from 2020 and earlier with datasets extracted from the HSRI solution as needed upon request.
  - As is true for any analysis, two different data sources – such as APAC data from Milliman and from HSRI -- should not be combined to show trends.
    - Subtle or overt differences in data collection and processing practices can inaccurately suggest a substantial change where none exists.
    - For example, changes in data management processes such as handling duplicate or reversed claims impact the data files extracted from the system and result in slightly different data from HSRI than from the previous vendor.
- **The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) replaced Medicaid and related program data** for all years, which would result in different Medicaid data in HSRI than in the previous system.
- **Some data elements were proprietary to Milliman and are not recreated in the HSRI system.** This includes some groupers. Please review the [APAC Data Dictionary and Data Elements workbook](#) for current data elements.

- **HSRI has a transparent system** and, with the exception of a few third-party data sets, the logic/algorithm used to process or compute the fields are fully available.
  - Fields for which logic/algorithms/detailed descriptions cannot be provided are the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) administered by the American Medical Association, the Code on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature (CDT) administered by the American Dental Association and the American Hospital Formulary Service (AHFS) administered by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

### **What remains unchanged are:**

- **The mandatory reporters submitting data.**
  - The process of identifying mandatory reporters remains unchanged. Although there are slight shifts in who reports each year based on the criteria established in administrative rules, most organizations report year after year. See specific information in Table 3 of the APAC [Data User Guide](#).
- **The data files submitted to APAC** (with the exception of OHA files).
  - All data files were transferred to HSRI and data are available for 2011 through 2019.
- **The file layouts.**
  - The file layouts used to collect the data have changed over time; however, no substantive changes occurred in the transition from Milliman to HSRI.
- **The rolling quarter data submission schedule and the point at which data are considered final.**
  - The last data collection for a calendar year is October 31 of the following calendar year. Data are considered final and available for research requests once processed and available in the system, approximately two months later. 2020 data, for example, is expected to be available for requests in January 2022.

Contact us at [apac.admin@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:apac.admin@dhsosha.state.or.us) with any questions.