WCIS Data Sharing Process

Alissa Huang

ahuang@dir.ca.gov

Workers' Compensation Compliance Manager

DWC

Discussion Topics

- Overview of WCIS data

- Data sharing process and timeline for the general public and for research institutions

What is WCIS data?

- Collecting since 2000 using the IAIABC standard

- Claims level information from all claims administrators in CA
  - FROI – first report of injury
  - SROI – second report of injury
  - Medical data

- Goals
  - Help DWC manage WC system
  - Facilitate Evaluation of Benefit Delivery
  - Measure Benefit Adequacy
  - Provide statistical data for research

WCIS Data Collection Guides

- Information including the list of data elements collected and requirements for reporting are in the **California EDI Implementation Guide for First and Subsequent Reports of Injury (FROI/SROI)** and the **California EDI Implementation Guide for Medical Bill Payment Records** posted on our website

Data Sharing Process

- Labor Code 138.7

    - Cannot disclose any identifiable information pertaining to any employee, employer, claims administrator, or any other person or entity

    - Identifiable information may be obtained by certain organizations and research institutions

- DIR units work together to fulfill data request from the public.

  - DIR WCIS EDI Contacts
  - DWC Research
  - DWC Legal
  - DIR IT Business Intelligence Unit

WCIS data available to the general public

- Aggregate data without any identifiable information
  - Requestor to identify the data elements and the timeframe for the study
  - Statement of intended use
  - DWC will provide an estimate of the costs and turn around time. The charge is $85 per hour
  - Data will be released after receipt of payment
  - Average Timeline – a week to a few weeks depending on the complexity of the request, when the payment is received, and staff
  - Extensive amount of aggregate data posted on DWC's website

WCIS data available to researchers

- Meeting with DWC staff
    - Summary and goals of the project
    - Data element selection
    - Methodology
    - DWC provides suggestions and data quality disclosures
    - Submit DWC's data application and statement of intended use
- Institutional Review Board Approval letter
    - Required for researchers using individually identifiable information
    - Average Timeline – depends on the review board and can take 1-2 months

- Data Sharing Agreement
  - Agree to DWC's terms of use
  - Finalize all data element selection and methodology
  - Obtain all signatures
  - Average Timeline: 7 weeks+
- Data Extraction
  - DWC IT staff work on the coding and the extraction
  - Second review process by IT for quality
  - DWC staff review output for accuracy and adherence to the agreement
  - Average Timeline: 3-8 weeks
- Data Delivery
  - Researcher will import data from DWC's secure site
  - Average Timeline: 1-3 days

Ways to Expedite the Process

- Read the EDI guides for the list of available WCIS data elements

- Prepare a methodology and identify how WCIS data will be utilized

- Obtain an institutional review board approval as soon as possible

- Review DWC's terms on the data sharing agreement and make sure your institution can adhere to them

- Identify who will sign the data sharing agreement in your organization and make sure they are available to sign the finalized agreement as soon as possible

Please send WCIS Data Requests to:

- WCIS@DIR.CA.GOV