

State of Nebraska Health Information Exchange Payor Data Standards Policy-Immunizations

Policy: State of Nebraska Health Information Exchange Payor Data Standards Policy	Accountability: Systems Support Manager / CyncHealth Staff / Vendors:	
Effective Date: 01/01/2023	Review Date: 9/19/2024	Referenced Procedures:
Intended Audience: All CyncHealth staff and vendors working on behalf of CyncHealth.		
Approval: 12/15/2022 9/19/2024		
Title: Health Information Technology Board		

STATEMENT

In accordance with the standards set forth under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”) as well as federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements (hereafter referred to as “Regulatory Requirements”), CyncHealth is committed to ensuring the availability of vaccination/immunization data to the payers for the purposes of care coordination and care gap closure.

- **Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI):** Information that is “individually identifiable health information” and is created, received, maintained, or transmitted in any electronic form or medium.
- **Health Information Technology Board (HIT Board):** A seventeen-member board of healthcare professionals appointed by the Governor of Nebraska to oversee the State of Nebraska Health Information Exchange and the State of Nebraska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).
- **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP):** The system in Nebraska established as a standalone medication query platform that collects all prescriptions dispensed from pharmacies and other dispensers, established through Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454.
- **Protected Health Information (PHI):** Information that is “individually identifiable health information” and is created, received, maintained, or transmitted in any form or medium.
- **Nebraska State Immunization Information System (NESIIS):** A secure, statewide, web-based system that connects and shares immunization information among public clinics, private provider offices, local health departments, schools, hospitals, and other health care facilities that administer immunizations and provide medical care to Nebraska residents.
- **Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP):** A network protocol that provides file access, file transfer, and file management over a reliable data stream.

- **Vaccine:** A preparation that is used to stimulate the body's immune response against diseases. Vaccines are usually administered through needle injections, but some can be administered by mouth or sprayed into the nose.
- **Vaccination:** The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce protection from a specific disease.
- **Immunization:** A process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination. This term is often used interchangeably with vaccination or inoculation.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to document the State of Nebraska Health Information Exchange's ("CyncHealth") responsibilities surrounding Immunization data delivery to participating payer partners. Payers are responsible to provide care coordination services and complete Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) reporting utilizing immunization data. Health plan members often switch plans, change physicians or move causing the payer difficulty in maintaining complete and accurate data.

Immunization information is found in four different data sources. NESIIS if reported, the PDMP if received at a pharmacy, payor claims data, and the facility Vaccination Record Update (VXU) for those with this feed type connected to the HIE. The HIE will aggregate these disparate sources into a concise report for the payer.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This policy covers health information data within the Nebraska Health Information Exchange, payor claims data, and Prescription Drug Monitoring Program that are overseen by the State of Nebraska HIT Board.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The State of Nebraska HIT Board with the support of CyncHealth Chief Legal Counsel will be responsible for the enforcement, interpretation, management, review, and education of this policy. Likewise, CyncHealth staff will be responsible for acknowledgement and adherence to this policy.

POLICY

Payor Data Format

Flat file of immunizations available within the Health Information Exchange (HIE), the Prescription Drug Monitoring program (PDMP) payor claims data, and the Nebraska State Immunization Information System (NESIIS) data set. Immunizations delivered will be based upon the Annual Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Immunization Child and Adolescent and Adult Schedules

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/>

Payor Data Flow

All data will be based upon the payers' monthly member roster file. A payor submits their member roster to CyncHealth via a secure file transfer portal (SFTP). The requested data is generated using this file. This assures only data on the payers' active members is delivered. The completed data request is then returned to the payer using the SFTP portal.

COMPLIANCE

CyncHealth staff will be required to comply with all information security policies and procedures as a condition of employment or contract with CyncHealth. CyncHealth staff who fail to abide by the requirements outlined in the State of Nebraska Health Information Exchange Payor Data Standards Policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or contract.

ANNUAL REVIEW

Date:	Reviewed By:	Comments/Updates:
9/19/2024	HIT Board	No updates