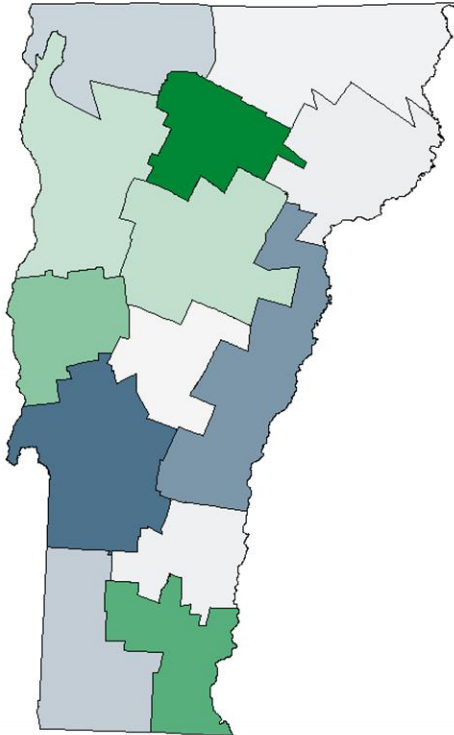


Data Governance Council Charter Update

***Dian Kahn, Director of Data and Analytics
Sebastian Arduengo, Staff Attorney
Sarah Lindberg, Health Services Researcher
February 14, 2018***



GMCB's Data Governance Authority

18 V.S.A. Sections 9405, 9410, 9453, 9454

- Broad authority over and responsibility for maintaining a health care database that includes hospital- and insurer-reported data for quantifying and analyzing health care utilization, expenditures, and resources for insured Vermont residents and by Vermont residents and non-resident using Vermont hospital-based services.
- Stewardship of:
 - Vermont Health Care Uniform Reporting and Evaluation System (VHCURES) with eligibility and claims data for medical and prescription drug services used by **Vermont residents** and,
 - Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set (VUHDDS) for inpatient, outpatient and emergency department services provided by Vermont hospitals to **Vermont residents and non-residents**.

Data Governance Council

Stewardship Responsibilities

- Data Quality and Utility
 - Monitoring quality and utility of VHCURES and other data sources.
- Risk Management
 - Implementing best practices for protection of privacy and data security.
- Finance and Program Sustainability
 - Evaluating program expenses, developing new use cases for the data of interest to stakeholders, and identifying and leveraging new sources of revenue.
- Data Use and Disclosure
 - Implementing clear and consistent process for evaluating requests for use and disclosure and monitoring authorized data use and disclosure.

Council Historical Timeline

2014: GMCB approved development of data governance program and formation of Council to implement the program. First Charter and Data Stewardship Principles and Policies drafted. Placed moratorium on releasing data to non-state entities.

2015: Board approved **Data Stewardship Principles and Policies** and adopted the first **GMCB Data Governance Charter** that defines the purpose, composition and membership, roles, and responsibilities of the Council.

2016: Council lifted moratorium on accepting DUA applications from non-state entities, and Council continued to meet as needed through September 2016.

2017: Due to availability of Medicare data, process and forms updated for new DUA cycle starting with state agencies; data enclave model and capability developed; in-house capacity for supporting data analytics increased → all driving the need to update the Charter to support Council activities moving forward.

Current Priorities for Data Governance

Priorities as catalyst for revised Charter:

- Making Medicare data (in addition to Medicaid and commercial data) available to Vermont state agencies and their external agents (state contractors and grantees) through a new DUA cycle.
- Several non-state entities have filed or are requesting to file DUA applications including a federal contractor for the final evaluation of the Vermont State Innovation Models (SIM) project.
- Board's designated vendor, Onpoint Health Data, recently developed data enclave, eliminating the need to transfer record-level data outside the enclave environment entailing program costs while mitigating some of the risks associated with external data storage.
- Increased in-house capacity to support internal analytics and serve information needs of external parties.

Charter Revisions for Consideration

Technical

Section 5.2 Roles and Responsibilities:

- Adding a minimum requirement of voting members including the Chair, to five (5) members including provisions for designating a quorum for voting.
- Replacing non-voting members with technical, legal and administrative support provided by GMCB staff.

Charter Revisions for Consideration

Council Membership and Authority

Considerations to improve efficiency over historical processes
(Section 5.2 Roles and Responsibilities):

1. GMCB Executive Director retains position as Council Chair and appoints voting members.
2. Board members no longer required to serve on the Council as voting members but may still choose to serve.
3. Council members may be recruited from outside GMCB.
4. Council may delegate authority to:
 - make decisions on requests for data use and disclosure, and
 - address requests for data linkages.

Requested Board Action

Adopt proposed revisions to the Data Governance Charter inclusive of Section 5.2 addressing Roles and Responsibilities.