

Clinical Data Repository FAQ

The Clinical Data Repository (CDR) program helps state health and human services agencies design and deliver better care for better outcomes for Washingtonians. [Health Commons Project \(HCP\) OneHealthPort, LLC](#) is Health Care Authority's (HCA) lead organization (LO) responsible for administering and providing technical support for the CDR.

[RCW 41.05.035](#) directs [HCA](#) to design, implement, and maintain state electronic health record repositories and infrastructure for secure exchange of health information. The [CDR program](#) was established in 2015 and receives client data from provider [electronic health record](#) (EHR) systems around the state. Data submitted to the CDR includes diagnoses, procedures, and clinical outcomes and is exchanged using standardized interoperable data formats to facilitate its usability and accessibility.

As of March 2025, the CDR houses over 20 million clinical documents for nearly 2 million unique individuals covered by [Apple Health \(Medicaid\)](#). These clinical data are submitted by dozens of health care provider organizations. Data from the CDR is used to meet [re-entry related program](#) objectives as part of the [Medicaid Transformation Project 2.0](#). It is an important source of clinical information for authorized [clinicians in local carceral settings](#) who access data about their clients when caring for them. Authorized clinicians from provider and payer organizations can access the [CDR clinical portal](#) for care coordination purposes.

The CDR allows statewide clinical outcomes analyses and evaluations. While administrative claims data can help quantify the type, volume, cost, timing, and location of health care services, only clinical data sourced from EHRs allows clinical outcomes analyses.

FAQ

What is the value of the CDR program?

The CDR is a reliable and secure statewide repository of clinical health data used for program evaluation and research purposes supporting evidence-based practices at the local level.

Where can researchers access CDR data?

All data access requests are routed through the CDR program LO.

Are providers required to participate in the CDR program? What about behavioral health providers?

If you serve Apple Health clients and have a [certified¹ EHR](#), then you are required to participate. Providers are encouraged to review how the [revised SUD confidentiality rules²](#) align more with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

How do I know if my EHR is certified?

Certified EHRs are identified on a [list maintained by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)³](#).

How does data get from my EHR to the CDR?

The CDR LO uses the statewide secure [health information exchange](#) (HIE) connecting certified EHRs to the CDR. Certified EHRs are [required by CMS⁴](#) to send data in a standardized, interoperable [format⁵](#) the CDR can ingest and process.

Is the CDR supposed to connect directly to my EHR? How can CDR participants review data in the CDR?

The CDR program offers aggregated clinical data for population health analytic purposes and is not pursuing EHR integration. The CDR program also offers a [clinical web portal](#) through which authorized program participants can view client data. Contact the CDR program LO for guidance on accessing the web portal.

What should I do if I find it cost prohibitive for my small organization to join the HIE and/or modify my EHR to send data to the CDR?

Work with the CDR program LO so that barriers to participation can be understood. The LO also provides all technical support for the CDR program.

What else is HCA doing to help providers support secure health information exchange benefiting Apple Health clients?

HCA's [Connect Program](#) seeks to provide EHR capabilities to an initial cohort including Indian health care providers, behavioral health and SUD providers, long-term care providers, and crisis responders. Providers are also encouraged to explore [ConsentLink](#), HCA's electronic consent management solution.

¹ The [Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology](#) (ONC) maintains an EHR certification program.

² The [42 CFR Part 2 Final Rule Fact Sheet](#) explains its increased alignment with [HIPAA](#).

³ The [Certified Health Information Technology \(IT\) product list](#) (CHPL) contains all certified EHRs. This list is maintained by [CMS](#).

⁴ ONC-certified EHRs are required to be [compatible with CCD files](#).

⁵ The CDR currently accepts client files in the [Continuity of Care Document](#) (CCD) format.