

Data Analytics Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2025 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT
[Meeting Recording](#)

ATTENDANCE:

By Electronic Device:

Olga Armah	Max Dargin	Dan Pumerantz
Sarah Carr	James Leavitt	Joe Quaranta
Ayesha Clarke	LeeAnn Miller	Michelle Wilson
Mehul Dalal	Ana Morales	Josh Wojcik
Stephanie de Abreu	Roslyn Murray	

Absent:

Michaela Dinan
Rick Hein

Other Participants:

Alex Reger	Michelle Williams	Michael Bailit
Patty Blodgett	Matt Reynolds	Chris Romero-Gutierrez

WELCOME

Josh Wojcik called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm. Josh then reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Josh welcomed James Leavitt to the Data Analytics Workgroup.

APPROVAL OF 3/26 MEETING MINUTES AND CHARTER AND BYLAWS

Olga Armah motioned to approve the charter and bylaws. Sarah Carr seconded the motion. The charter and bylaws were approved. Mehul Dalal motioned to approve the March meeting minutes. Sarah Carr seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

COST GROWTH BENCHMARK TRUNCATION LEVELS ANALYSIS

Michael Bailit shared the truncation points that OHS has used for high-cost outlier spending in payer and Advanced Network-level Cost Growth Benchmark reporting. Michael noted that OHS has observed a decline in the effectiveness of the truncation points, as both spending and the number of members exceeding the points had steadily increased. Michael shared recommendations for revised truncation points for use in analyzing 2024 spending growth. Michael shared that OHS continues to explore using “spline regression” to identify truncation points in the future.

- James Leavitt asked if the data included both the number of people impacted and the amount of spending that was truncated. Chris Romero-Gutierrez confirmed that both were tracked.
- Roz Murray expressed support for OHS’ proposed approach.
- Olga Armah asked if the deterioration of the truncation points was limited to the commercial market. Chris Romero-Gutierrez replied that the deterioration was also present, but to a lesser degree, in the Medicaid and Medicare markets. Olga expressed her support for the proposed new methodology.
- Ana Morales asked if the spending OHS had analyzed included both medical and pharmacy spending. Michael confirmed that it did.

DIVING DEEPER INTO SPENDING GROWTH

Michael Bailit shared that based on APCD data, payment per unit was the primary driver of commercial market spending growth for medical services in 2023, but half of the increase in commercial retail pharmacy spending. Michael shared that since 2019, payment per unit had increased 17% and 10% for commercial hospital inpatient and commercial hospital outpatient respectively, while utilization only contributed to spending growth for hospital outpatient.

- Joe Quaranta asked if payment per unit growth was risk-adjusted. Michael Bailit replied that it was not.
- James Leavitt asked if outpatient spending included emergency department utilization. Michael replied that it did. James asked to what extent emergency department spending was driving outpatient spending. Michael replied that he did not have that data on hand but could share it during a future meeting. James said he would find the data valuable.
- Patty Blodgett asked for confirmation that outpatient spending included medical pharmacy. Michael confirmed that it did.
- Stephanie de Abreu suggested looking at how payment per unit varies by geography. Michael replied that OHS had been assessing payment per unit variation, noting that there is tremendous variation in Connecticut, as there is in other states.

Michael shared that commercial retail pharmacy spending increased 52% over the 2019–2023 period, driven by a 36% increase in payment per unit. Payment per unit also drove spending increases for commercial professional physician services.

- Stephanie de Abreu asked if professional physician spending included primary care. Michael Bailit replied that it did. Stephanie de Abreu suggested parsing out specialty vs primary care professional physician spending growth.
- Roz Murray suggested breaking out professional physician spending by hospital-affiliated vs non-hospital-affiliated spending. Michael Bailit replied that it was challenging to tease affiliation apart using APCD data.
- Josh Wojcik suggested looking at changes in service mix, including the extent to which more expensive inpatient services were shifting to outpatient services. Michael replied that OHS was looking into factors such as increasing code intensity and the impact of new services.

For Medicare Advantage, Michael shared that payment per unit was the primary driver of spending growth for all service categories except professional physician services. For Medicaid, payment per unit was the sole contributor to spending growth across service categories.

FUTURE DATA DASHBOARD PRIORITIES

Patty Blodgett reviewed OHS' current data dashboards and asked for suggestions on how OHS could improve the dashboards and/or their use.

- Alex Reger encouraged members to peruse the dashboards, share them with others, and provide any feedback and/or analyses developed using the dashboards.
- Patty shared that OHS was also working on a health equity dashboard.

Patty then shared potential future dashboards that OHS may develop and asked what other data questions members thought OHS should investigate.

- Stephanie de Abreu suggested somehow tying high-cost areas to quality performance to assess whether improved quality of care could help reduce costs in those areas.
- Olga Armah suggested looking at the impact of chronic conditions on spending.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josh Wojcik offered the opportunity for public comment. No member of the public provided comment.

NEXT STEPS & MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Josh Wojcik noted the next meeting would be held on August 6th from 2-3 pm. Josh asked members to email him, Patty, and/or Michael with any topics they would like to see added to future agendas. Josh also informed members of OHS' June 23rd public hearings. LeeAnn Miller motioned to adjourn. Sarah Carr seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:01 PM.

UPCOMING MEETING:

August 6, 2025

[Data Analytics Workgroup Meeting Materials](#)