

Lab results data sharing information

Guidelines for sending data
to Humana



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Overview

The lab data feed is a secured data feed set up between you (or a third party) and Humana. It usually is a weekly or monthly feed that sends Humana lab data results for your patients with Humana coverage. This information is something that is not included on the claim or encounter submitted to Humana. These data are critical to improving the quality scores of our health care professionals and Humana and may ultimately enhance the care of your patients.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires Medicare Advantage (MA) plans to submit quality data to the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). These data are collected from health care professionals and laboratories to evaluate the effectiveness of care and services provided by the health plan. The NCQA determines the effectiveness of the plan by evaluating the data and translating the information into Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) scores. Our goal is to collaborate with our health care provider network to support healthy outcomes for Humana-covered patients. Listed below are just a few ways lab results data are used by Humana to help meet this goal.

- **Health alerts (enabled by Humana's clinical rules engine)** – Humana's clinical rules engine team works closely with our disease management teams, using lab results data to create actionable data for health care professionals.
- **Chronic disease programs** – Chronic diseases require a coordinated and multidimensional approach to care. Lab results data provide important and meaningful health insights.
- **Member summary reporting** – Member summary reports are provided to health care professionals and their patients. These reports support reduction of preventable medical errors and can help avoid duplication of treatments and procedures. The patient's health information is available in one place, when and where it is needed.
- **Predictive modeling** – Lab results data contribute significantly to Humana's ability to manage the cost of care through robust predictive models that identify patients at high risk for readmission or poor outcomes, as well as those for whom proactive monitoring is indicated.

In addition, lab results data are important metrics used for Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®), Stars and other required reporting tools.

Humana data feeds are available on a daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly basis. The information is deliverable electronically, according to a specified communication process and procedures.

Humana-approved methods for data exchange

Humana offers four types of connectivity technology:

Option 1: Lab connectivity

- Your lab results data can be sent daily, weekly or monthly to Humana via secure file transfer protocol (FTP).
- Data you provide can include current results and historical data.
- Health care professionals in value-based arrangements or who participate in physician rewards may benefit financially by using the data to close gaps in care.
- Lab connectivity can assist you in assigning LOINC® (Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes).
- There is no cost to connect with Humana systems; however, you are responsible for any cost associated with extracting the required data from your internal data systems.

Option 2: Medical record connectivity

- Your Humana-covered patients' medical records are automatically sent to Humana after each episode of patient care.
- To ensure compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), your patients' records are sent only from the date connection begins.
- Data you provide will be available to all Humana operating units that currently request medical records, including HEDIS/Stars, Medicare risk adjustment (MRA) hierarchical condition category (HCC) coding, physician rewards, claims processing, etc.
- Medical record connectivity technology is provided at no cost to Humana health care professionals.

Option 3: Humana bidirectional clinical data exchange

- Your electronic medical record (EMR) combines all the benefits of medical-record connectivity and your patient's Humana Member Summary at the point of care.
- The member summary report provides your practice with Stars measures, hierarchical condition category (HCC) history, prescription history, lab results and hospitalization information about your patients with Humana coverage.
- Humana provides this technology at no cost to you. (EMR display of the member summary depends on your EMR capabilities.)

Option 4: Health information exchange (HIE) between health care professionals

- All the benefits of Humana bidirectional clinical data exchange are available, plus the capability to share medical records with other health care professionals.
- You can choose to add data analytics for true population health management.
- You can include all of your patients, regardless of their payers.
- In accordance with federal regulations, you would pay for this type of data exchange.

Questions? For more assistance with connectivity, please send an email to provider engagement at ProviderEngagement@Humana.com. Please include “Humana Connectivity” in the subject line.

Additional resources

- [Frequently asked questions](#)
- **LOINC® website:** <http://loinc.org/>