



Social Determinants of Health



As a health care data collection organization, we understand the necessity of collecting Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) with the goal of improving the health of our communities and reducing medical costs. In many organizations, the questions are being asked, but without the supporting diagnosis codes in the data, many facilities miss the opportunity to maximize the use of the SDOH data.

WHAIC has partnered with the WHA quality team to help facilitate the improvement of patient outcomes in our members' communities while also promoting collaborative efforts with community-based resources.

Social determinants of health can be self-reported, or screening questions may be asked by *any* health care professional. Simply put, by asking the questions, documenting the responses, and including the diagnosis codes for SDOH codes (Z55-Z65) on the standard 837 claim file, WHAIC can assist hospitals and health systems by creating useful dashboards and other community maps to help your organization improve quality, care coordination, and reduce patients' risk factors for those with unmet needs. And, although we recognize this may not directly affect you, we ask that you share this with others in your facility who are responsible for creating and mapping the discharge data files and coding the encounters.

We look forward to continuing our partnership throughout 2022. Stay tuned for more information on an upcoming SDOH collaborative. This collaborative will include information to improve the reporting of SDOH codes, webinars, and working one-on-one with your health care organizations to help design custom SDOH initiatives based on your needs and our mutual goals.

Payer Mapping

Having accessible health care data, including the number and types of health plans serving a community, is important to demonstrate and leverage best practices in patient care, determine risk, efficiently control the rising cost of health care services, and to evaluate market share in a highly competitive Wisconsin market.

Data drives decisions and actions, and as a data-driven organization, we know it also provides an opportunity to implement solutions to support new strategies in an ever-changing health care environment. Therefore, to expand value to our member hospitals and data users, **in 2022 WHAIC will be releasing the mapped commercial names of the payers in the datasets.** We will continue to work with you to make sure the existing payer mapping conforms to our standards and ask that you review your payer reports and perform your own internal audits to verify the names of the payers on the claim files is as it should be, coming directly from the claim and mapped accordingly.



WIPop Reminders

- We are continuing to encourage facilities to make every effort to report data on a monthly basis. A uniform timeline along with the use of the standardized claims file data layout will provide a simpler process for those who submit data and those who correct edits. It also allows us to use the data in the dashboards more quickly.
- Please confirm or work with your technical support to make sure all the required fields are **pulling from the actual claim**. We are seeing free-text mapping in the payer fields and missing diagnosis codes for reporting of childbirth – both mom (Z37) and newborns (Z38).
- Are you changing vendors? Please remember your data submission requirements, obligations and the timeline when changing vendors. Also verify the name of the vendor when logging into the portal. If the vendor's name is incorrect, contact us at whainfocenter@wha.org to update it in our database.
- Reports are available in real-time in WIPop (Batch/Reports) once the data is loaded. Running real-time reports on a regular basis will reduce the amount of time needed at the end of the quarter to validate your data.
- WHAIC staff does not add new users for a facility. Each new user, employee, or data submitter must register for the portal. Please review the [registration process](#) in the manual for more information.

Holiday Observance Hours

The WHA Information Center staff would like to wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.



11/25 – Closed for Thanksgiving

11/26 – Closed day after Thanksgiving

12/24 – Closed at noon

12/27 – Closed

12/31 – Closed at noon

1/4 – Closed