

SSB 5351 Collaborative Workgroup Meeting

April 3, 2026 | Zoom | 10am-12pm

Attendance: Carol Carbone, Lisa Egbert, Jim Freeburg, Kim Hudak, Jina Jilek, Bracken Killpack, Carolyn Logue, Jenna McKenzie, Sean Pickard, John Quirk, and Matt Sinnott

Ruckelshaus Center Staff: Chris Page and Gaby Diamond

OIC Staff: Jane Beyer and Sydney Rogalla

Additional Attendees: Mark Hanscome, Eric Lo, and Crystal McGaffin

Agenda Items:

- *DDWA presentation on pathway for Denturists to be in-network*
 - *Group discussion on whether a recommendation from the group to the legislature is needed. If so, drafting a first offer for the April meeting.*
 - ***Come back to this- send out the two options and have folks review before next workgroup meeting***
- *Discuss input from March meeting on relative payment based on network status.*
 - *Bracken, Denise, Carol, and Sean volunteered to draft a proposal for the group to work with-updates?*

Facilitator, Chris Page welcomed members to the meeting. He thanked the members that worked on the proposal and asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

Delta Dental of Washington Presentation, “Denturist Network Timeline”

John Quirk and Sean Pickard presented slides about the timeline for bringing denturists in network with DDWA. By January 2028 denturists should be active as in network providers and fully supported by DDWA. DDWA plans to brief the OIC. Workgroup members asked how bringing denturists into DDWA’s network could affect Delta Dental’s policies in other states, with regards to denturists. It may encourage them to bring denturists in network as well, especially if there is an accessible framework. Denturists hoped the timeline would be sooner, but understand there are lots of process elements. DDWA will work with the Washington Denturist Association (WDA) to present this information to their board.

Potential Recommendations

Chris shared screen with the “draft potential rec – relative payment” document and asked members for feedback on specific ideas. The first was the recommendation to bring denturists in network. Members thought it would be a good idea, but some carriers do not operate with in and out of networks, they employ their denturists. If this recommendation moves forward it needs to be worded so those carriers are not penalized. WDA requested

additional time to review the proposed language and will bring their feedback to the next Workgroup meeting.

The second potential recommendation about the All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) was drafted by members of the Collaborative (and Workgroup). Chris thanked Sean, Bracken, and Denise for their time and work. Bracken explained that this potential recommendation is not fully finished or agreed upon but helps paint the picture of how the OIC could report the data, what data might be helpful, and questions. The data requested is already collected with hopes to potentially segment it into smaller data sets (3-digit zip code was mentioned so it's not publicly disclosable). The OIC shared that there is typically a 9-month lag between when the service was paid and when it shows up in the APCD. Another element to consider is if there are less than 3 claims in a cell, it must be blinded, so the more granular the request, the more missing information there will be. Along the same lines, if patient information by ZIP has less than ten claims it would also not be made publicly available. Another important note is that the report cannot include identifying information about payers until after July 1, 2026. The terminology has changed for a submitted claim and is now "bill charge".

The next section of the second potential recommendation are things the small group thought about but are not certain how the data is collected. When determining the code bundles, a member suggested including common preventative codes and some intensive procedures performed by specialists. It was also suggested to collect highest and lowest costs of payment details, because averages tend to show skewed data. The APCD data also does not show balance billing activity, only what the payer paid when the claim was submitted. It's important to note that prior authorization denials will not generate a claim. It's also difficult to differentiate when a patient hits their annual maximum and the payment is zero and balance billing. This should be referred to as a potential risk of balance billing rather than assuming it is balance billing.

The last section of the second potential recommendation were questions for the group and the OIC. Members requested a data dictionary to understand the definitions and names of data points collected. The APCD has good data starting around 2016, but the OIC cautions using pre-Covid data. Based on the information requested, this report would probably be done by a third party (OnPoint) and would not be done until summer in 2028. With that in mind, members wondered if this proposal was worth the request. Workgroup members decided to bring these proposals back to their constituencies and review the language, as well as think about other possible solutions that may not be as rigorous or long of a request.

Decision/Action items:

- The Facilitation Team will send out the recommendation about Denturists to the Workgroup members after the meeting for review by the next Workgroup meeting on April 17th.
- The Facilitation Team confirmed the request to carriers for a rate or range of rates for the code 1110 (adult cleaning) and 5110 (partial denture). Carriers should bring this information to the April 24th Collaborative meeting.
- The OIC will get back to the Workgroup with information about rendering address versus billing provider address in the APCD.
- The OIC will review the proposal and bring information for a data dictionary back to the next Workgroup meeting.
- The Facilitation Team will send out the proposal document, with and without the changes. Members should respond by Tuesday, April 14th with additional comments, changes, or other ideas so they can be sent out with the agenda and reminder email for the next Workgroup meeting.

Links:

- 2023 Data submission guide: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/data-and-reports/washington-state-all-payer-claims-database-wa-apcd#AccessAPCDdata>

Adjourn