AHRQ Physician and Physician Practice Research Database
Physician Practice Directory – Public Use File Codebook

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES · USA

AHRQ
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

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Purpose and Contents of the Codebook

The Practice Directory Public Use Files provide information and characteristics of practices within the state.This codebook provides a list of available data elements and their characteristics. Because data contained in the Physician and Physician Research Database are drawn from multiple data sources, variables may have differing availability and patterns of missingness across states. The codebook includes a variable label, variable name, input data source, variable type and length, value definition, related comments, and state-specific information.

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3P-RD: Physician and Physician Practice Database
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Practice ID

Description (Label): Unique ID representing the combination of TIN-ORG NPI-5 DIGIT ZIPCODE

Variable Name: PRACTICE_ID

Input Data Sources: APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This field contains the unique practice identifier. The identifier was created using the tax identification number (TIN)/PECOS PAC ID, Organizational NPI, and ZIP code of practice. It is a linking variable used to link practice information to the 3P-RD physician file.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

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Organizational NPI

Description (Label): Organizational NPI

Variable Name: ORG_NPI

Input Data Sources: APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This field contains the 10-digit National Provider Identifier (NPI) for the organization associated with the practice ID.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

Number of 3P-RD hysicians ssociated   ith the hysician ractice ite

Description (Label): Number of 3P-RD physicians associated with the physician practice site

Variable Name: TOT_3PRD_PHYS

Input Data Sources: APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: NUM

Length: 8

Comment: This field reports the number of 3P-RD physicians that are associated with the practice site.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

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Most Common Specially Overall: 1

Description (Label): Specialty most common among the practice's physicians

Variable Name: COMMON_SPEC_OVERALL1

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 50

Comment: This field contains the name of the most common specialty (based on billing)

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

Single Specialty Practice Flag

Description (Label): Single Specialty Practice Flag

Variable Name: SING_SPEC_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This field indicates whether all physicians associated with the practice site have the same specialty.

Value Definition: 1 = all physicians associated with the physician practice site have the same specialty; 0 = physicians associated with the physician practice site have different specialties

State-Specific Notes: None

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If Single Specialty, Which?

Description (Label): If Single Specialty, Which?

Variable Name: SING_SPEC_TYPE

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 50

Comment: This field provides the name of the specialty when all physicians associated with the practice site have the same specialty.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

PCP Focused Practice Flag

Description (Label): Primary care specialty (PCP) Focused Practice Flag

Variable Name: PCP_SPEC_FOCUS_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This fields indicates if any of the physicians associated with the practice site have a primary care specialty listed in the primary/secondary specialty. Primary care specialties include: General Practice; Family Practice; Internal Medicine; Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine; Hospice And Palliative Care; Pediatric Medicine; Geriatric Medicine; Preventative Medicine

Value Definition: 1 = any physicians associated with the physician practice site have a primary care associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file; 0 = no physicians associated with the physician practice site have a primary care associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file

State-Specific Notes: None

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Common Primary Care Specialties: 1 through 5

Description (Label): Primary care specialty (PCP) most common among the practice's physicians

Variable Name: COMMON_SPEC_PCP1, COMMON_SPEC_PCP2, COMMON_SPEC_PCP3, COMMON_SPEC_PCP4, COMMON_SPEC_PCP5

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 50

Comment: These fields report the names of the top 5 most common primary care specialties.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

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Medical Specialty Flag

Description (Label): Medical Specialty Flag

Variable Name: MED_SPEC_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This fields indicates if any of the physicians associated with the practice site have a medical specialty listed in the primary/secondary specialty. Medical specialties include: Allergy/Immunology; Cardiovascular Disease (Cardiology); Interventional Cardiology; Dermatology; Gastroenterology; Neurology; Cardiac Electrophysiology; Pulmonary Disease; Nephrology; Infectious Disease; Endocrinology; Rheumatology; Addiction Medicine; Hematology; Hematology/Oncology; Medical Oncology; Sleep Medicine

Value Definition: 1 = any physicians associated with the physician practice site have a medical associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file; 0 = no physicians associated with the physician practice site have a medical associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file

State-Specific Notes: None

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Common Medical Specialties: 1 through 5

Description (Label): Medical specialty most common among the practice's physicians

Variable Name: COMMON_SPEC_MED1,COMMON_SPEC_MED2, COMMON_SPEC_MED3, COMMON_SPEC_MED4, COMMON_SPEC_MED5

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 50

Comment: These fields report the names of the top 5 most common medical specialties.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

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Surgical Specialty Flag

Description (Label): Surgical Specialty Flag

Variable Name: SURG_SPEC_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This fields indicates if any of the physicians associated with the practice site have a surgical specialty listed in the primary/secondary specialty. Surgical specialties include: General Surgery; Otolaryngology; Neurosurgery; Ophthalmology; Orthopedic Surgery; Sports Medicine; Plastic And Reconstructive Surgery; Colorectal Surgery; Thoracic Surgery; Urology; Hand Surgery; Peripheral Vascular Disease; Vascular Surgery; Cardiac Surgery; Surgical Oncology.

Value Definition: 1 = any physicians associated with the physician practice site have a surgical associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file; 0 = no physicians associated with the physician practice site have a surgical associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file

State-Specific Notes: None

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Common Surgical Specialties: 1 through 5

Description (Label): Surgical specialty most common among the practice's physicians

Variable Name: COMMON_SPEC_SURG1, COMMON_SPEC_SURG2, COMMON_SPEC_SURG3, COMMON_SPEC_SURG4, COMMON_SPEC_SURG5

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 50

Comment: These fields report the names of the top 5 most common surgical specialties.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

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Obstetrics/Gynecology Specialty Flag

Description (Label): Obstetrics/Gynecology Specialty Flag

Variable Name: OBGYN_SPEC_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This fields indicates if any of the physicians associated with the practice site have an Obstetrics/Gynecology specialty listed in the primary/secondary specialty. Obstetrics/Gynecology specialties include: Obstetrics/Gynecology; Gynecological/Oncology

Value Definition: 1 = any physicians associated with the physician practice site have a Obstetrics/Gynecology associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file; 0 = no physicians associated with the physician practice site have a Obstetrics/Gynecology associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file

State-Specific Notes: None

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Common Hospital Specialties: 1

Description (Label): Hospital-based specialty most common among the practice's physicians

Variable Name: COMMON_SPEC_HOSP1

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length:　50

Comment: These fields report the names of the top 5 most common hospital-based specialties.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

Psychiatrist Specialty Flag

Description (Label): Psychiatrist Specialty Flag

Variable Name: PSYCH_SPEC_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This fields indicates if any of the physicians associated with the practice site have a psychiatrist specialty listed in the primary/secondary specialty. Psychiatrist specialties include: Psychiatry; Geriatric Psychiatry; Neuropsychiatry

Value Definition: 1 = any physicians associated with the physician practice site have a psychiatrist associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file; 0 = no physicians associated with the physician practice site have a psychiatrist associated primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file

State-Specific Notes: None

Other Specialist Flag

Description (Label): Other Specialist Flag

Variable Name: OTHR_SPEC_FLAG

Input Data Sources: 3P-RD Physician file, APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 10

Comment: This fields indicates if any of the physicians associated with the practice site have a specialty identified as 'other' listed in the primary/secondary specialty. Other specialties include: Undefined Physician Type.

Value Definition: 1 = any physicians associated with the physician practice site have an other primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file; 0 = no physicians associated with the physician practice site have an other primary or secondary specialty in the CORE file

State-Specific Notes: None

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2-Digit State FIPS   ode

Description (Label): State

Variable Name: STATE

Input Data Sources: APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 7

Comment: This field reports the 2-digit state FIPS code of the practice site.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

5-Digit ZIP Code

Description (Label): 5-Digit ZIP Code

Variable Name: ZIP_CD

Input Data Sources: APCD Claims, CMS Claims

Type: CHAR

Length: 9

Comment: This field reports the 5-digit ZIP code of the practice site.

Value Definition: N/A

State-Specific Notes: None

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