Educational Materials — details about sharing your data

The CMS ONC Interoperability Rule

To give current Medicare Advantage members better access to their health care data, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) have partnered to help improve health care data sharing.

The goal is to simplify the experience and your access to health care data. As a result, the CMS ONC Interoperability and Patient Access Rule (Rule) was created. This Rule sets up the framework to help third-party software developers build applications (apps) or websites that can connect with health plans to share data.

The Rule requires that AmeriHealth provides active members with access to their personal health information through what is known as a "Patient Access Application Programming Interface (API)." AmeriHealth Medicare Advantage members can share personal health information with a third-party app or website of their choice.

You can access this data sharing by downloading a third-party app on your smartphone, tablet, computer, or another smart device. When available, you can also access this data sharing by using a third-party company's website on your smartphone, tablet, computer, or another smart device.

Sharing personal health information

The personal health information made available through the Patient Access API includes information collected by AmeriHealth during your enrollment with any AmeriHealth plan or customer since January 1, 2016.

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The personal health information available through the Patient Access API includes:

- **Claims and encounter data:** Data from interactions with health care providers in the office or other settings that are submitted for reimbursement to AmeriHealth;
- **Prescription drug data:** Data regarding any prescription drugs that you have been prescribed and/or have filled using your AmeriHealth health care benefits; and
- **Clinical data:** Data collected by AmeriHealth in the process of providing case management, care coordination, laboratory visits, and/or other services.

IMPORTANT: The third-party app or website you select will have access to **all** your personal health information. This includes **sensitive health information** about treatments, such as substance use disorders, mental health treatment, HIV status, and more.

Things to consider when choosing a third-party app or website

The third-party app or website is **not** subject to HIPAA or other privacy laws, which generally protect personal health information.

The third-party app or website should have its own privacy policy that should provide self-imposed limitations on how the third-party app or website will use, maintain, disclose, and (possibly) sell information about you.

Before you decide to access your personal health information through the Patient Access API, you should carefully review the privacy policy of the third-party app or website you are considering. Make sure you are knowledgeable and comfortable with how the third-party app or website will use, maintain, and/or further disclose your information. If the third-party app or website privacy policy does not address your concerns or is not available, you may consider using a different third-party app or website.

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What you need to know about a third-party app or website:

- Will this third-party app or website *sell* my data for any reason?

- Will this third-party app or website *disclose* my data to third parties for purposes such as research, data analytics, or advertising?

- How will this third-party app or website *use* my data? For what purposes?

- Will the third-party app or website allow me to limit how it uses, maintains, discloses, or sells my data?

- If I no longer want to use this third-party app or website, or if I no longer want this third-party app or website to have access to my personal health information, can I terminate the third-party app's or website's access to my data? If so, how difficult will it be to terminate access?

- What is the third-party app's or website's policy for *deleting* my data once I terminate access? Do I have to do more than just delete the third-party app or website from my device?

- How will this third-party app or website inform me of changes in its privacy policy or practices?

- Will the third-party app or website collect non-health data from my device, such as my location or any other personal information?

- What security measures does this third-party app or website use to protect my data?

- What impact could sharing my data with this third-party app or website have on others, such as my family members?

- Will the third-party app or website permit me to access my data and correct inaccuracies? (Correcting inaccuracies in data collected by the third-party app or website will not affect inaccuracies in the data source.)

- Does the third-party app or website have a process for collecting and responding to user complaints?

If the third-party app's or website's privacy policy does not answer these questions for you, you may reconsider using the third-party app or website to access your personal health information. You should choose a third-party app or website with strong privacy and security standards.

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Data sharing details

The third-party app or website authorization is voluntary, and data sharing will remain in effect **for one (1) year from the date of this completed authorization.** Please know that AmeriHealth will not impact payment for health care, enrollment in a health plan, or eligibility for benefits based on you providing authorization.

You may revoke this authorization at any time by contacting our Member Help Team at the number on the back of your member ID card or when you log in at amerihealth.com/login. Revoking this authorization will **not** affect any disclosure AmeriHealth already made to the third-party app or website you selected and previously authorized prior to your revoking access. You should contact the third-party app or website regarding any request to delete your personal health information from the app or website. This will depend on the third-party app's or website's privacy policy.