National Practitioner Data Bank: Partnering to Protect Patients
Querying Overview
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Division of Practitioner Data Bank (DPDB)
Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Agenda

- Overview of Querying the NPDB
- Hospital Querying
- Confidentiality
- NPDB Statistics
- Query Response
- Additional Resources
- Questions
Querying Overview
What is a query?

- It is a search for information regarding a healthcare practitioner or organization.
- We collect information on medical malpractice payments and certain adverse actions from reports submitted by eligible entities.
- The ability of an organization to query, and the types of information they may receive through querying, is determined by law.
### Who Reports and Queries?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTITY TYPE</th>
<th>REPORT</th>
<th>QUERY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health plans</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other health care entities with formal peer review</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State agencies that license and certify health care practitioners and entities, including boards of medical and dental examiners</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State agencies administering or supervising state health care programs</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State law enforcement or fraud enforcement agencies (including state Medicaid fraud control units and state prosecutors)</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal licensing and certification agencies</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agencies administering federal health care programs, including private entities administering such programs under contract</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal law enforcement officials and agencies (including Drug Enforcement Agency, HHS Office of Inspector General, and federal prosecutors)</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical malpractice payers</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional societies with formal peer review</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer review organizations (excluding quality improvement organizations)</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private accreditation organizations</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality improvement organizations</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual practitioners, providers, and suppliers (self-query only)</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ✔️: Required
- ✗: Not Authorized
- +: Optional
Querying Overview

There are two types of queries available:

► One-Time Query
  • Allows you to receive a query response for a practitioner or organization.
  • You will not be notified of any new reports submitted after the initial query date.

► Continuous Query
  • Allows you to receive a query response for a practitioner.
  • You will also receive new or updated report notifications during a year-long enrollment for each practitioner.
Querying Fees

Querying for hospitals and healthcare organizations:

- $2 for a year-long Continuous Query enrollment
- $2 for a One-Time query

Self-Query for an individual or organization:

- $4 per query
How can I use Continuous Query?

► Once Continuous Query has been activated by your organization's Data Bank administrator, you may begin to enroll practitioners in Continuous Query.

► Start a new query

► Select the Continuous Query option

► Complete the enrollment form

► Click submit
Hospital Querying
**Hospital Querying**

**Hospitals must query on** health care practitioners when practitioners apply for staff appointments (courtesy or otherwise) or clinical privileges (including temporary privileges) every two years for practitioners on staff or with clinical privileges.

**Hospitals may query on** health care practitioners with whom the hospital has entered (or may be entering) employment or affiliation relationships.
Hospital Querying

Querying through an Authorized Agent

- Authorized agents must query the NPDB separately on behalf of each eligible entity.

- The query response submitted for one entity cannot be disclosed to another entity.

Delegated Credentialing

- Delegated credentialing occurs when a health care entity gives another health care entity the authority to credential its health care practitioners.
Be sure to enter:

✓ the practitioner's full name and any other names used.
✓ the practitioner's identification numbers.
✓ all license numbers held by the practitioner.
✓ the practitioner's Professional School and Year of Graduation.

Before submitting the query, review the information to ensure its accuracy.
Hospital Querying

VIEW INITIAL RESPONSES

DCN: 550000010000000

Select a subject name to obtain information or, if rejected, the reason for rejection. Those items marked as Pending have not yet been processed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Reports Found</th>
<th>Date Viewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOE, JANE</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feb 22, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you think your response is missing an action that should have been reported? If so please visit the Reporting Compliance page for more information.
Public Burden Statement
Have you received a response on a practitioner or organization and believe the response is incomplete or missing some information? Do you think a report should have been submitted by a licensure board, a hospital, a medical malpractice payer or other type of healthcare organization? If so please provide us with the following information. The Data Bank will review the information to determine if the action was not properly reported.

Before you submit information on a missing report, please be advised that the reports you receive from the Data Bank are based on your specific eligibility.

Depending on the specific circumstances, certain actions may not be reportable to the Data Bank. For more information on reporting requirements consult the NPDB Guidebook. Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (*).

SUBJECT NAME
ARIEL ABBALAY

REPORTER INFORMATION

*Missing Report Type:
CHOOSE ONE FROM LIST

*Name Of The Reporter That Should Have Submitted The Report:

*Reporter Type:
CHOOSE ONE FROM LIST

Reporter Address (if known):
Street Address:

Address Line 2:

City:

State:
CHOOSE ONE FROM LIST

ZIP Code:
Confidentiality
Confidentiality

- Information contained in reports is considered confidential.
- Fines are up to $22,363 per violation.
- Querying for personal use is not allowed.
Disclosure of Information

An eligible entity receiving information from the NPDB is allowed to disclose the information to others who are part of the investigation or peer review process, as long as the information is used for the purpose for which it was provided.
Confidentiality

Query responses may be shared between health care sites within a health care system, if the health care system:

► Provides for centralized credentialing;
► Has a centralized peer review process;
► Has one decision-making body; and
► Has one unified medical staff.
How Many Queries Do I Need to Run?
for health plans, hospitals, networks, and similar health care systems

Centralized Credentialing

Dr. Wilson applies to NoMed Health System, which has one decision-making body for all of its facilities.

The NoMed credentialing office assembles a file on Dr. Wilson with one query response.

They share it with the decision-making body, who is responsible for all facilities oversight, including conducting credentialing and peer review processes.

The board grants privileges. Dr. Wilson can now work at any NoMed facility within the health system.

Decentralized Credentialing

Dr. Smith applies to AdMed Health System, which has three decision-making bodies for its four facilities.

The AdMed credentialing office assembles three files on Dr. Smith with a different query for each facility to share with the separate decision-making bodies.

AdMed has three decision-making bodies that are responsible for the oversight of their own facilities. They decide for their facilities if they want to grant privileges to Dr. Smith.

Two boards grant privileges. One of the AdMed boards makes decisions for two facilities.

One board doesn’t grant privileges.

Dr. Smith may only work at the AdMed facilities that the two boards oversee.
A hospital merged with another hospital, and both have medical staff offices. Should they continue to query separately using different DBIDs?

It depends. If the hospitals maintain separate medical staff credentialing, the hospitals must query separately (two DBIDs). If, by applying to one hospital, a healthcare practitioner is granted privileges to practice at both institutions, the peer review process is centralized, and the institutions have a single decision-making body, one hospital may query on behalf of both institutions (one DBID).
NPDB Statistics

AGGREGATE DATA

1.4 million REPORTS
23 thousand ENTITIES

2018 DATA

85+ thousand NEW REPORTS
8.4 million QUERIES
1.8 million DISCLOSURES
Reports in the NPDB

NPDB Individual Reports By Type (9/1/1990 – 12/31/2018)

- State License Action: 53.9%, N=773,947
- Malpractice Payment: 31.5%, N=453,108
- Exclusion Action: 8.2%, N=118,118
- Judgment or Conviction: 2.4%, N=34,103
- Clinical Privileges: 1.7%, N=24,840
- Government Administrative Action: 1.2%, N=17,645
- Health Plan Action: 0.6%, N=8,897
- Federal License/DEA: 0.3%, N=4,527
- Professional Society: 0.1%, N=1,491

N=1,436,678
Reports on Individuals by Profession
2010 – 2018 (N = 832,000)

- Registered Nurse
- Physician
- Licensed Practical Vocational Nurse
- Nurse Aide, Nurse Asst, Home Health Aide
- Other Reported Professions
- Pharmacist, Pharmacy Technician
- Dentist
- PT, OT, Respiratory, Massage Therapist
- Other Behavioral Health
- Chiropractor
- Advanced Practice Nurse
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Social Worker
- Physician Assistant
- Podiatrist
- Psychologist
- Optometrist, Optician
One-Time Queries (January – December 2018)

- Health Plans: 60.1%, N=3,084,444
- Hospitals: 17.0%, N=870,612
- Other Service Providers: 16.7%, N=858,839
- Self-Queries: 3.2%, N=163,232
- State Licensing Agencies: 2.6%, N=132,923
- Government Programs: 0.3%, N=14,004
- Professional Societies: 0.1%, N=3,997
- Peer Review: 0.01%, N=528
- Law Enforcement: 0.002%, N=116

N=5,128,695
Continuous Query Enrollees

Continuous Query Enrollees (January – December 2018)

- Hospitals: 48.0%, N=1,584,317
- Health Plans: 28.1%, N=926,204
- Other Service Providers: 19.2%, N=632,589
- State Licensing Agencies: 3.6%, N=118,630
- Government Programs: 1.0%, N=33,752
- Professional Societies: 0.1%, N=2,005
- Peer Review: 0.001%, N=30
- Law Enforcement: 0.0%, N=2

N=3,297,529
Query Response
Query Response

A query response with one report.

DOB: 04/22/1950
Gender: MALE

NPDB
P.O. Box 10532
Chantilly, VA 20153-0532
http://www.npdb.hrsa.gov

DOE, JOHN J JR – ONE-TIME QUERY RESPONSE

A. SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION
Practitioner Name: DOE, JOHN J JR
Date of Birth: 04/22/1950
Organization Name: ORGANIZATION NAME
Work Address: SAMPLE STREET, RESTON, VA 11111
Home Address: SAMPLE STREET, RESTON, VA 11111
Social Security Number: ***,***-1000
License: COUNSELOR, MENTAL HEALTH, 1234567890, VA

B. QUERY INFORMATION
Statutes Queried: Title IV, Section 1221, Section 1123E
Query Type: This is a One-Time query response. Your organization will only receive future reports on this practitioner if another query is submitted.
Entity Name: TEST HOSPITAL (DBID ending in ..79)
Authorized Submitter: TEST SUBMITTER, SUBMITTER, (703) 555-1212

C. SUMMARY OF REPORTS ON FILE WITH THE DATA BANK AS OF 01/10/2013

The following report types have been searched:
- Medical Malpractice Payment Report(s): No Reports
- Professional Society Action(s): No Reports
- DEA/Federal Licensure Action(s): No Reports
- Government Administrative Action(s): No Reports
- Clinical Privileges Action(s): Yes, See Below
- Health Plan Action(s): No Reports
- Peer Review Organization Action(s): No Reports

TEST HOSPITAL
TITLE IV CLINICAL PRIVILEGES
Basis for Action: - INSURANCE FRAUD (MEDICARE, MEDICAID OR OTHER INSURANCE)
Initial Action: - REDUCTION OF CLINICAL PRIVILEGES
DCN: 7659500007836555
Date of Action: 10/01/2011

------------------------- Unabridged Report(s) Follow -------------------------
### NPDB

**DOE, JOHN J JR**

**TEST HOSPITAL**

**TITLE IV CLINICAL PRIVILEGES ACTION**

**Date of Action:** 10/01/2011

**Initial Action:** REDUCTION OF CLINICAL PRIVILEGES

**Basis for Initial Action:** INSURANCE FRAUD (MEDICARE, MEDICAID OR OTHER INSURANCE)

#### A. REPORTING ENTITY

- **Entity Name:** TEST HOSPITAL
- **Address:** 324 TESTING ROAD
- **City, State, Zip:** SUIT 100
  - **City:** WASHINGTON
  - **State:** DC
  - **Zip:** 20000

#### B. SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION (INDIVIDUAL)

- **Subject Name:** DOE, JOHN J JR
- **Other Name(s) Used:**
- **Gender:** MALE
- **Date of Birth:** 04/22/1900
- **Organization Name:** ORGANIZATION NAME
- **City, State, Zip:** RESTON, VA 20191

#### C. INFORMATION REPORTED

- **Type of Action:** REDUCTION OF CLINICAL PRIVILEGES
- **Basis for Action:** INSURANCE FRAUD (MEDICARE, MEDICAID OR OTHER INSURANCE)

**END OF REPORT**
Query Response

A continuous query response with one report.
Query Response

NPDB
P.O. Box 10832
Chantilly, VA 20153-0832
https://www.npdb.hrsa.gov

Continuous Query ID: 3000000000000000
DCN: 55000001111111
Process Date: 03/14/2019 Page: 1 of 1
DOE, JOHN
For authorized use by: BOARD OF DENTISTRY

DOE, JOHN - CONTINUOUS QUERY RESPONSE

A. SUBJECT IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION (Recipients should verify that subject identified is, in fact, the subject of interest)

Practitioner Name: DOE, JOHN
Date of Birth: 01/01/1901
Gender: FEMALE
Other Name(s) Used: DOE, JOHN
Home Address: 4350 FAIR LAKES CT, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA, 22033
Social Security Number: ***-**-3333
License: DENTIST, 000000, CO, GENERAL DENTISTRY (NO SPECIALTY)
Professional School(s): OREGON HEALTH AND SCIENCE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY (1965)

B. CONTINUOUS QUERY ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Enrollment Status: Enrolled - 03/14/2019 - 03/31/2020*
* Unless enrollment is canceled by the entity prior to this date
Statutes Queried: Title 40; Section 1921; Section 1120E
Entity Name: BOARD OF DENTISTRY (DBID ending in ...24)
Authorized Submitter: ABBY GLAD-ZIPLOCK, LICENSING MANAGER, (703) 555-5555

C. SUMMARY OF REPORTS ON FILE WITH THE DATA BANK AS OF 03/14/2019

The following report types have been searched:

- Medical Malpractice Payment Report(s): No Reports
- State Licensure Action(s): No Reports
- Exclusion or Debarment Action(s): No Reports
- Government Administrative Action(s): No Reports
- Clinical Privileges Action(s): No Reports
- Health Plan Action(s): No Reports
- Professional Society Action(s): No Reports
- DEA/Federal Licensure Action(s): No Reports
- Judgment or Conviction Report(s): No Reports
- Peer Review Organization Action(s): No Reports

---------- No Reports Found Based on the Subject Information Submitted ----------
Query Response FAQ

Are hospitals required to document and maintain records of their requests for information?

► NPDB regulations do not require hospitals to document or maintain records of their queries.

► Query responses may serve as evidence that a hospital queried as mandated. Query responses are available for 45 days in our system.

► The Historical Query and Report Summary feature provides a summary of an entities' query history and a history of when an eligible entity queried.
Additional Resources
Additional Resources

**CAN I QUERY THE NPDB? WHAT DO I GET?**

To query the NPDB, your organization must be:

- **ELIGIBLE to query**
  - Under the authority of the legislation and regulations underlying NPDB policy.
  - **ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE:**
    - Hospitals (must query every 2 years)
    - Ambulatory surgical centers
    - Health centers
    - Health plans
    - State licensing boards
    - Skilled nursing facilities
    - Group medical practices
    - Other health care entities*
  
  *May be qualified to register and query according to federal regulations

- **REGISTERED with the NPDB**
  - You must be signed into your NPDB account to submit a query.

**A query result may include:**

- No reports
- One report or more
- Notification if there are future updates to the report(s)
- (Continuous Query only) Notification if there are new reports for enrolled subjects

Practitioners and organizations can Self-Query the NPDB for their own information.
How Do I Query?
If your organization is registered with the NPDB and eligible to query:

**Sign Into Your NPDB Account**

**Activate Continuous Query**
For the same price as a One-Time Query, get initial query results for enrolled practitioners, plus updates on any new or updated reports for one year. Data Bank administrators must activate Continuous Query for their organization’s NPDB account.

**Choose “Query”**
On the Query Options page, select “Start a Query or Enrollment.” Start a new enrollment if your organization has activated Continuous Query, or you may start a new One-Time Query.

**Person or Organization?**
Choose the type of query subject: a practitioner (e.g., physician, dentist, nurse) or an organization (e.g., pharmacy, nursing facility, home health agency).

**Complete the Query Form**
Fill out as many fields as possible to ensure a timely and accurate response.

**Choose a Payment Method**
Enter a credit card, or select a stored credit card or a previously-established electronic funds transfer (EFT) account.

**Get Your Query Response**
In most cases, your response will be available right after you submit the form. If additional processing is needed for a response, you will see a Temporary Record of Submission, and you will be notified when your response is available.

www.npdb.hrsa.gov
Additional Resources

3 REASONS TO ACTIVATE CONTINUOUS QUERY

1 FREE QUERY UPDATES
Get an initial query result, plus updates on any new reports for a year, for the same price as a One-Time Query

2 REAL-TIME NOTIFICATION
If the NPDB receives a new or updated report for one of the practitioners you enrolled, we will notify you - usually within minutes, but no more than 24 hours later

3 FULFILLS QUERY REQUIREMENTS
Meets all legal and accreditation requirements as set by:
- The Joint Commission
- URAC
- CARF International
- National Committee for Quality Assurance

HOW TO GET STARTED
- Sign into your NPDB account.
- Go to the Administrator Options page.
- Select Activate Continuous Query, then submit the form.
- Start a new query, then select the Continuous Query option.
Contact Us

NPDB Customer Service Center: help@npdb.hrsa.gov

NPDB Policy Mailbox: NPDBPolicy@hrsa.gov
Questions