



emPOWERing State Medicaid and CHIP Data Pilot



The Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), in partnership with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), launched the emPOWERing State Medicaid and CHIP Data Pilot to help states and territories **better protect the health of children and adults with access and functional needs** in the event of an emergency

Background

Millions of Americans rely on electricity-dependent medical equipment and essential health care services to live independently in their homes. In the event of an incident, emergency, or disaster, at-risk populations often seek immediate care from first responders, hospitals, and shelters. Public health officials, health care providers, emergency managers, and first responders require timely data and information to help them anticipate, plan for, and respond to the needs to at-risk populations in their communities.

The **HHS emPOWER Program**, an ASPR and CMS partnership, provides federal Medicare data and mapping tools, resources and training to help communities protect the health of more than 4.2 million Medicare beneficiaries who live independently and rely on electricity-dependent medical equipment and health care services.

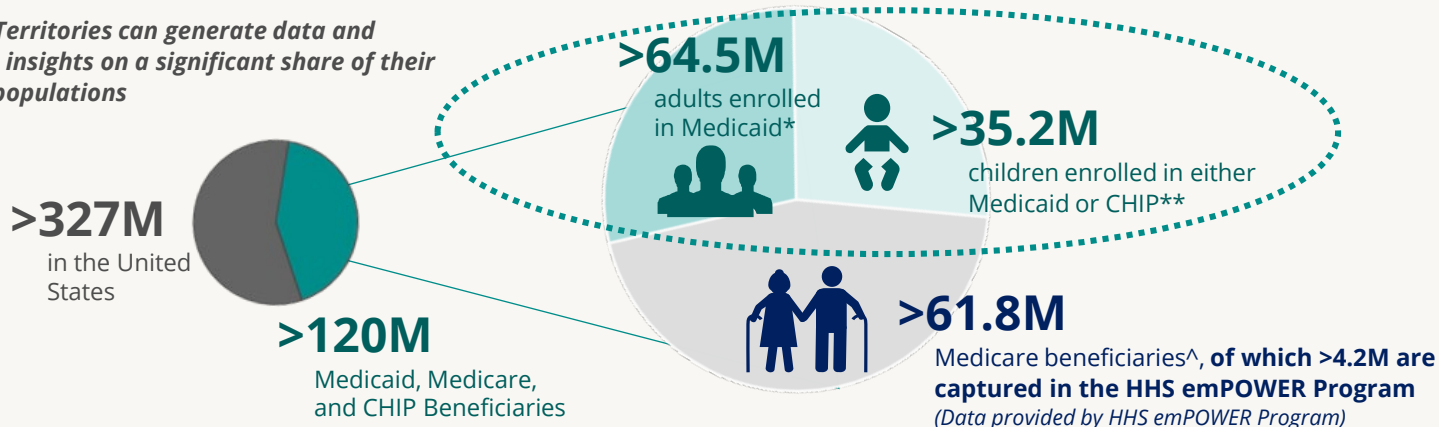
emPOWERing States and Territories: Medicaid and CHIP Data

ASPR, in partnership with CMS, launched the **emPOWERing State Medicaid and CHIP Data Pilot**, to advance states' and territories' understanding of at-risk populations in their communities, and help them to better anticipate needs and protect the health of children and adults based on their specific access and functional needs. The pilot provides guidance and technical assistance to help states and territories create emPOWER datasets from their state-operated Medicaid and CHIP data.

Pilot Summary

ASPR provides states and territories with specific guidance and technical assistance on how to generate datasets from their state-operated Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) data. This data can be merged with the HHS emPOWER Program Medicare data to provide a more holistic understanding of pediatric, adult and older adult access and functional needs in their communities.

States/Territories can generate data and capture insights on a significant share of their at-risk populations



Benefits of Using Medicaid and CHIP emPOWER Data

This pilot provides additional essential access and functional needs data that help **states and territories and their partners ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to the specific needs of children and adults prior to an event.** For example, pediatric data can assist them in determining necessary pediatric medical supplies, types of DME (e.g. wheelchairs, enteral feeding), and other resources, such as those to meet nutritional requirements, in shelters. Medicaid/CHIP programs are state-operated, so the state/territory can access more timely data that can enhance public health activity outcomes across the emergency management cycle.

Sample Uses for the Medicaid/CHIP emPOWER Data

The pilot enables states and territories to generate de-identified and individual-level (as appropriate) datasets that will support emergency preparedness and response activities, such as:

- Developing integrated emergency plans**, systems, processes, and triggers
- Anticipating potential **health care system surge** by at-risk populations (e.g., pediatric, adult, older adult) and **allocate resources** to mitigate system stress
- Identifying **optimal locations, staffing, resources, and power** needs for shelters supporting pediatric, adults, and older adult populations with access and functional needs
- Assessing **accessible transportation needs** and evacuation routes
- Informing power restoration prioritization** decisions
- Informing and supporting potential **emergency outreach and life-saving assistance**

[^] As of November 2019. Medicare beneficiaries (Part A, B and C) of : age 65+, regardless of income, medical history, or health status, and people <65 years old with permanent disabilities
* As of November 2019. Medicaid: some low-income people (i.e., families and children, pregnant women, elderly) and people with disabilities. In some states,
** As of November 2018. CHIP provides health coverage to eligible children, through Medicaid and separate CHIP programs.

Updated: 8/17/2020

Questions? Interested in participating?
Please email empower@hhs.gov



How to Participate in the Pilot

Successful completion of the emPOWERing State Medicaid and CHIP Data Pilot requires the state/territory Medicaid agency and state/territory public health authority to partner and agree to complete the pilot phases that are outlined below:

- 1 State/Territory Develops Partnership**
 The state/territory Medicaid agency and state/territory public health authority agree to partner to create and operationalize the state's or territory's Medicaid and CHIP datasets.
- 2 Federal Partners Provide Technical Assistance**
 ASPR provides the state or territory with the HHS emPOWER Framework, Algorithm Specifications and Technical (FAST) Capabilities Guidance document. ASPR and CMS provide technical assistance to address state or territory partner questions, as needed, throughout the pilot.
- 3 State/Territory Implements Framework and Generates Datasets**
 The state or territory implements the emPOWER FAST guidance for generating Medicaid and CHIP emPOWER de-identified and individual level (as appropriate) datasets.
- 4 State/Territory Operationalizes Datasets**
 The state or territory establishes any necessary intra- or inter-agency data sharing agreements; integrates and operationalizes the data across state emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation public health activities; and provides feedback to assist ASPR and CMS in identifying best practices, lessons learned and improvements that may aid other partners.

Process for Generating Datasets

From implementation of the framework and capabilities to creating the pilot datasets, this process is estimated to take approximately 50% time of a claims business analyst and a claims developer/programmer for up to four weeks.

A summary of the steps is below:



Identify required Medicaid/ CHIP data elements



Design and create programs and queries to extract data; apply identification and aggregation logic



Set up file transfer logistics; obtain clearance from legal (if applicable)



Run program(s); create and test datasets

Pilot Partnerships

The primary state and territory partnerships required for the pilot include the Medicaid agency IT/Enterprise Coordinators and the Public Health Authority Preparedness Director.

Key Partners

State/Territory Medicaid IT/Enterprise Coordinator



State/Territory Public Health Authority Preparedness Director

Federal Technical Assistance Partners



ASPR HHS emPOWER Program



CMS Medicaid Enterprise Systems (MES) Team

As of August 2020, the following states are participating in the emPOWERing State Medicaid and CHIP Data Pilot

In Process Complete



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