



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

General Questions

What is the Long Term Data Cooperative?

A nursing home electronic medical records (EMR) database created to evaluate how COVID-19 has impacted nursing home residents and to examine how the vaccine and other treatments for COVID-19 are working.

What are the goals of the Long-Term Care Database?

Over time, this database will serve three broader functions:

- Assist providers with care coordination for residents who transfer between skilled nursing facilities.
- Provide public health monitoring for medical conditions and infections, including COVID-19, to be securely shared with the Food and Drug Administration or the Centers for Disease and Control for public health programs.
- Identify research opportunities for National Institute of Health funded academic institutions and commercial companies.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Feel free to reach an AHCA representative at LTCDDataCooperative@AHCA.org for any questions or concerns you may have. A representative will respond within 24-48 hours. For data and security questions, please contact Exponent, Inc. at ltcdc@exponent.com.

How is the database beneficial to providers, medical and health care professionals, patients, and the community?

This database will be able to examine how the COVID vaccine and other treatments are working across nursing home residents. Those providing treatment to patients will be

able to use the data to evaluate treatment plans with patients that have similar health conditions and concerns.

Who has access to the data?

There are four categories of research that have varying requirements that must be met to comply with HIPAA for use of clinical EMR data. All individuals requesting use of the data for research will need to complete a set of forms and requirements, that may differ depending on the category of data use requested. All research uses of data from the LT CDC must be approved by a review committee appointed and approved by the Advisory Committee (as outlined in the section below). For more information, please contact us at LTCDDataCooperative@AHCA.org.

Registration

What forms do I need to register?

Complete the required legal agreements, facility listing, and submit the point of contact's information all to LTCDDataCooperative@ahca.org. You will receive a confirmation email within 72 hours of receipt. Once all parties have signed the legal agreements the data release form will be sent to your EMR Vendor and Exponent, Inc. to begin the data transferring process.

For assistance with applying to the data cooperative whom should I contact?

Please contact us at LTCDDataCooperative@AHCA.org for any questions or concerns you may have. A representative will respond within 24-48 business hours.

How do I know if my company is eligible to participate in the data cooperative? All nursing homes are eligible to participate!

If my vendor does not participate, am I unable to join this cooperative?

No! You may participate in the data cooperative if your provider does not choose to participate. Please complete all the steps to register. A team member from AHCA will notify your EMR provider of your participation.

What are the next steps after completing the registration?

You will receive a confirmation email once all requirements have been successfully submitted. The email will be sent to your appointed primary point of contact. The application will be reviewed by an AHCA team member to ensure all appropriate

documents have been received and accurately completed. Your EMR provider will then be notified of your participation.

Do I need to reach out to my vendor first?

No! An AHCA team member will notify your EMR vendor of your participation.

Why should my agency join?

A major barrier to developing appropriate clinical and operational responses during this global pandemic is the lack of comprehensive data. The Cooperative's national database will be important to continue to learn and monitor the effects of COVID-19 and the vaccine among vulnerable residents identify treatments, reduce the immediate and long-term impacts of the disease, and prepare for future public health threats.

Public Health & Data Questions

How will the LTCDC be able to provide public health monitoring for medical conditions and infections, including COVID-19, to be securely shared with the Food and Drug Administration or CDC for public health programs?

This system will produce and provide aggregate reports on number of cases and treatments that FDA, CDC and other public health agencies need to track information such as infectious outbreaks or medication usage. The aggregates will be shared with these agencies without identifiable information. We also will create individual provider reports to help with disease monitoring, treatment usage (e.g. COVID-19 vaccination), and resident changes via feedback reports to each participating provider free for participating the data sharing cooperative.

How will the research opportunities for the National Institute of Health funded by academic institutions and other companies be assessed?

All prospective research opportunities must complete an application process as well as obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for human subject research with medical record information when appropriate be individually assessed by a review committee to ensure alignment with the mission of the Long Term Care Data Cooperative to further improvements in resident outcomes. Please contact LTCDDataCooperative@AHCA.org for more information.

What data security and protection does Exponent, Inc. provide?

Information security and data protection are cornerstones of the Long-Term Care Data Cooperative. Exponent demonstrates its commitment to these principles by adopting multiple industry-standard frameworks, such as:

- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF), which serves as an overarching framework for understanding and communicating information cyber security
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015 (and others), which confirms Exponent's commitment to a robust, independently assessed quality management system
- Amazon Web Services, which provides an encrypted HIPAA and HITECH-compliant environment in which data are stored and analyzed

Exponent will continue to uphold its commitment to quality, security, and privacy by adopting new and emerging risk management techniques as they are available. Should you require any additional detail, please email ltcdc@exponent.com.