



National Practitioner Data Bank: Partnering to Protect Patients

Querying Overview
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Agenda

- Overview of Querying the NPDB
- Hospital Querying
- Confidentiality
- NPDB Statistics
- Query Response
- Additional Resources
- Questions



Querying Overview



Querying Overview

What is a query?

- ▶ It is a search for information regarding a health care 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?

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

 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



Querying FAQ

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.



Hospital Querying

Getting the Most out of your Query

- ▶ 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 RESPONSESNATIONAL PRACTITIONER DATA BANK
NPDB

ResponsesDetails

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.

| Subject Name | Status | Reports Found | Date Viewed |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| DOE, JANE | Completed | 3 | Feb 22, 2019 |

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.

Hospital Querying

REPORTING COMPLIANCE

NPDB

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 ABALLAY

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.

Confidentiality

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.



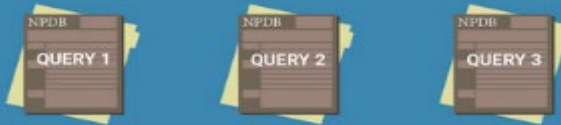
vs

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.



One board doesn't grant privileges.

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

Dr. Smith may only work at the AdMed facilities that the two boards oversee.



Confidentiality FAQ

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 health care 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



NPDB Statistics

AGGREGATE DATA

1.4 million REPORTS



23 thousand ENTITIES



2018 DATA

85+ thousand NEW REPORTS



8.4 million QUERIES

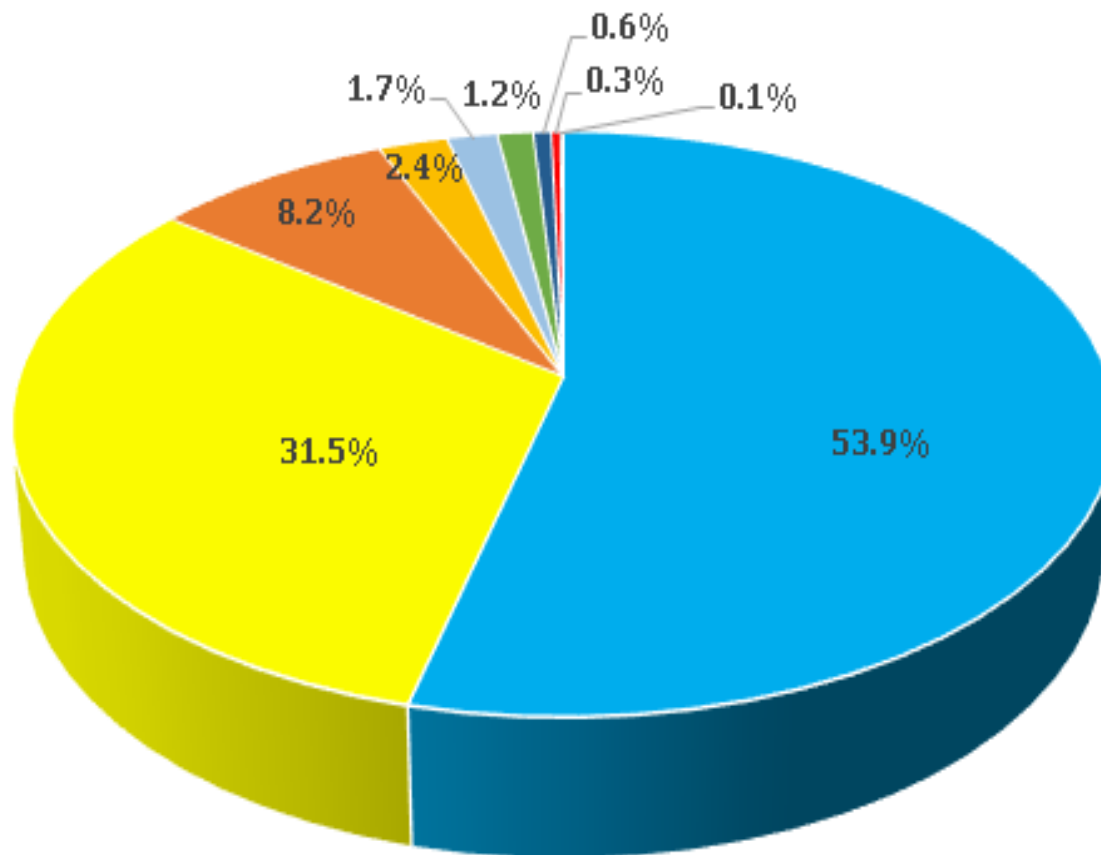


1.8 million DISCLOSURES



Reports in the NPDB

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



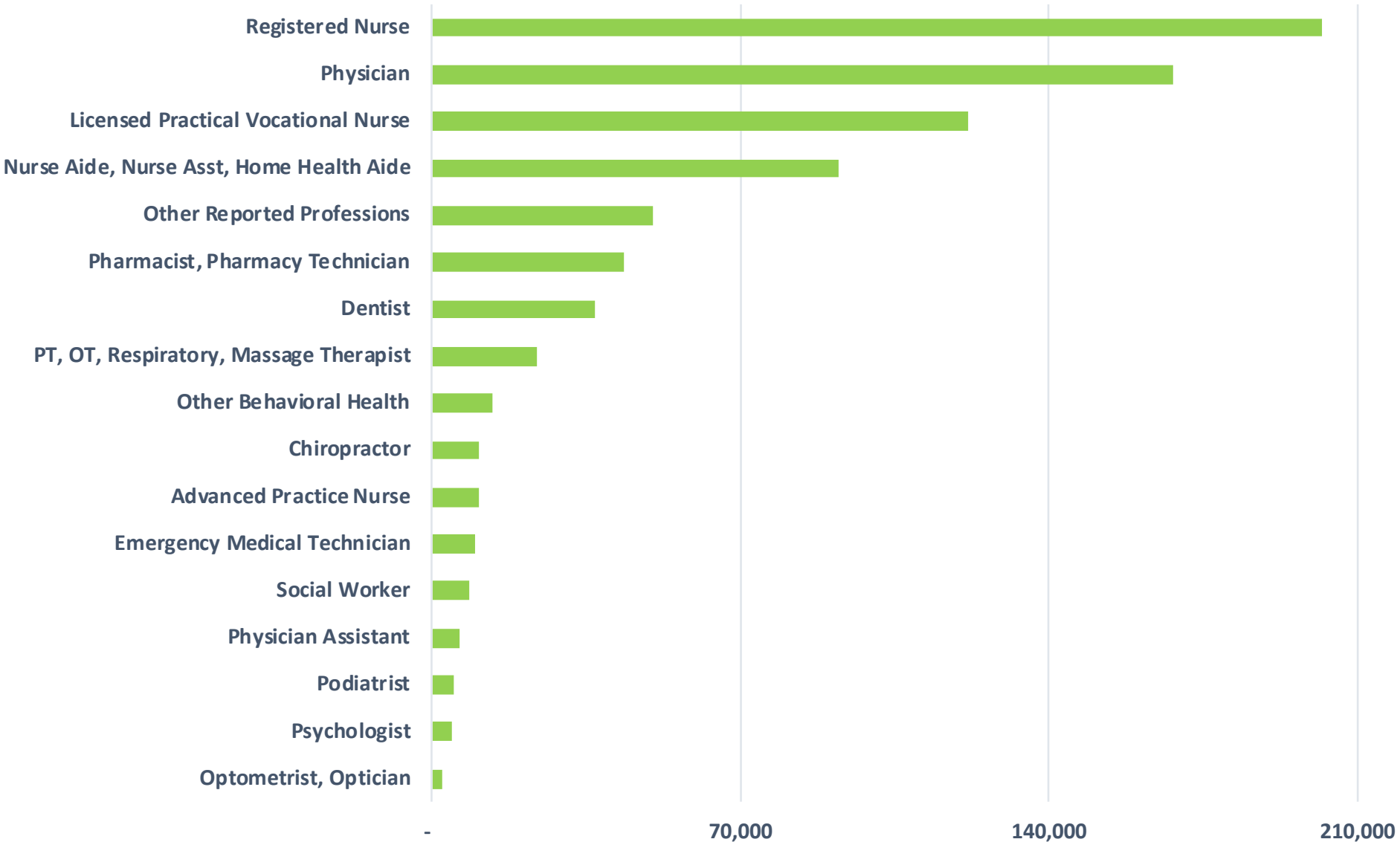
- State Licensure Action: 53.9%, N=773,947
- Malpractice Payment: 31.5%, N=453,108
- Exclusion Action: 8.2%, N=118,118
- Judgment or Conviction: 2.4%, N=34,103
- Clinical Privileges: 1.7%, N=24,840
- Government Administrative Action: 1.2%, N=17,645
- Health Plan Action: 0.6%, N=8,897
- Federal Licensure/DEA: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

N=1,436,678



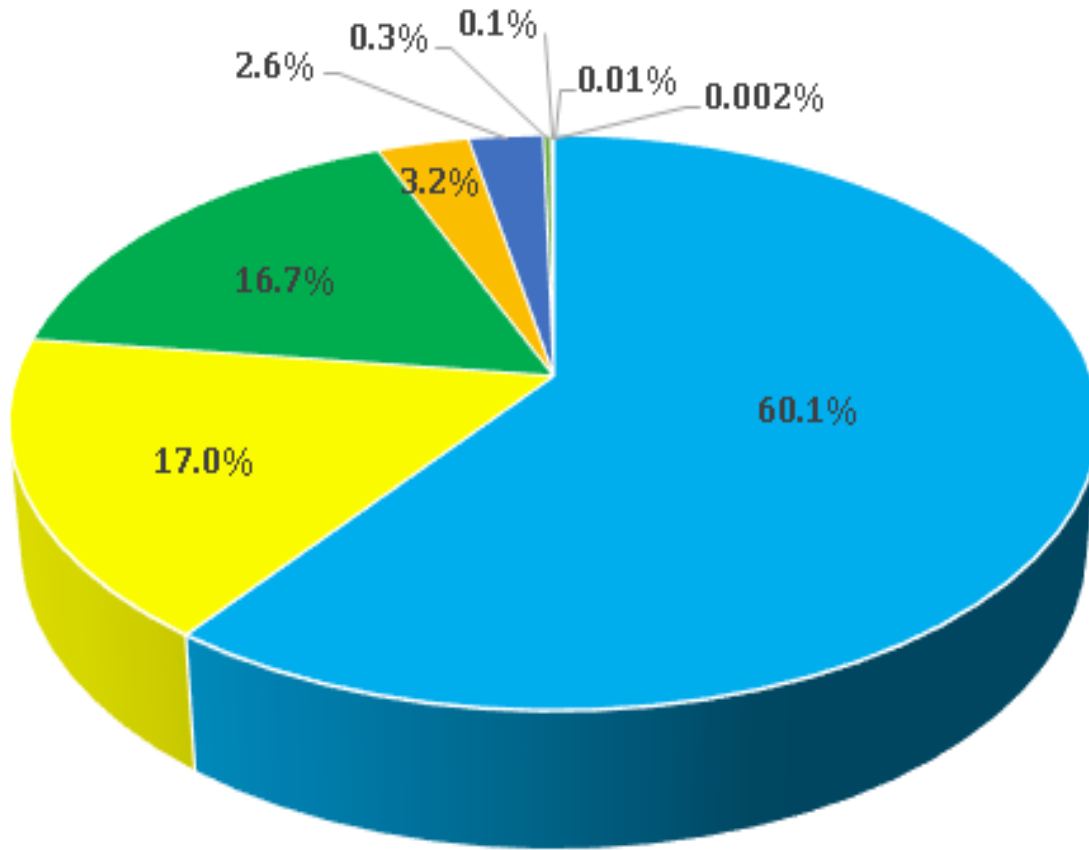
Reports on Individuals by Profession

2010 – 2018 (N = 832,000)



One-Time Queries

One-Time Queries (January – December 2018)



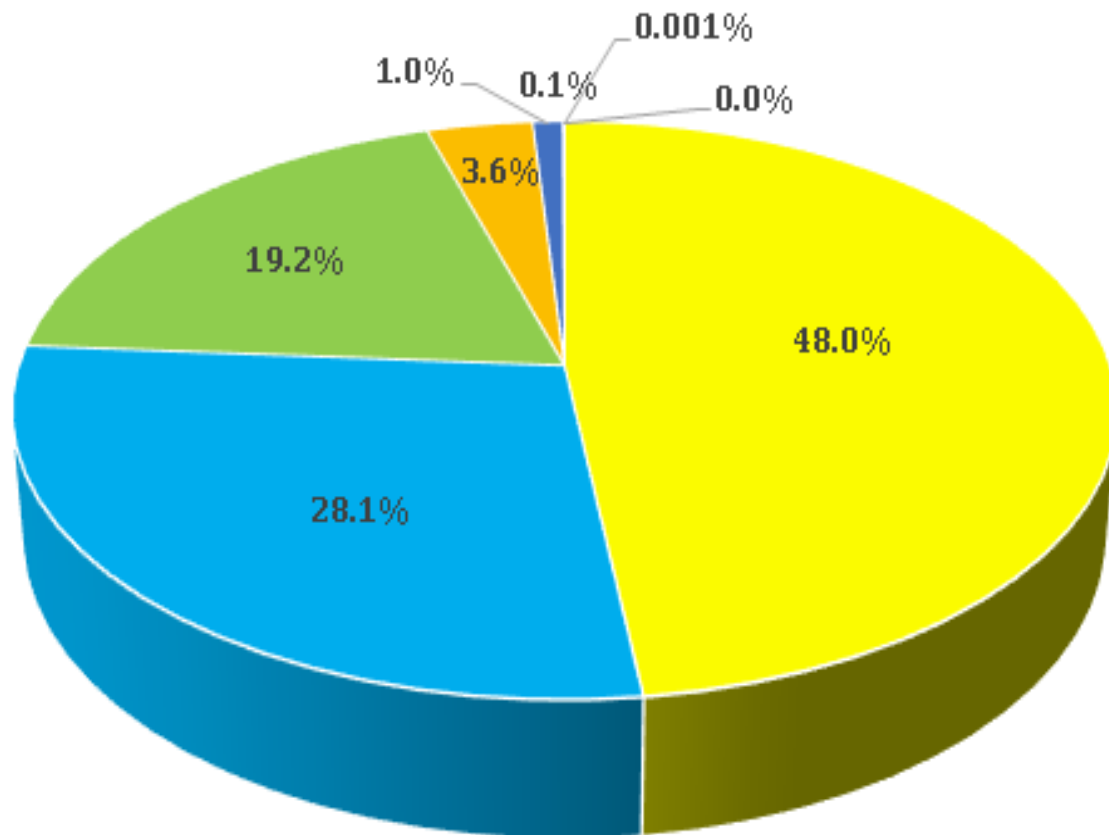
- **Health Plans: 60.1%, N=3,084,444**
- **Hospitals: 17.0%, N=870,612**
- **Other Service Providers: 16.7%, N=858,839**
- **Self-Queries: 3.2%, N=163,232**
- **State Licensing Agencies: 2.6%, N=132,923**
- **Government Programs: 0.3%, N=14,004**
- **Professional Societies: 0.1%, N=3,997**
- **Peer Review: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

www.npdb.hrsa.gov

To query the NPDB, your organization must be:

**ELIGIBLE**
to query

+

**REGISTERED**
with the NPDB

Under the authority of the legislation and regulations underlying NPDB policy.


You must be signed into your NPDB account to submit a query.

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


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.

Additional Resources

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



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