

The background features a blurred image of a person lying in a hospital bed, overlaid with a semi-transparent green layer. Various medical icons are scattered across the green area, including a syringe, a pill, a stethoscope, a microscope, a group of people, and a virus-like symbol. A large white cross is centered over the person's chest. The right side of the image is a dark grey diagonal band containing the report's title and details.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

Hospital Statistical and
Reimbursement (HS&R) Report
Timeliness Validation

Peach State Health Plan

Quarter 3: July 2021 – September 2021

December 17, 2021



**MYERS AND
STAUFFER** L.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

■ Project Background.....	2
■ Objective	3
■ Methodology.....	4
■ Assumptions and Limitations.....	5
■ Report Results.....	6
■ Findings	7
■ Exhibit A: Peach State Health Plan Report.....	8



Project Background

The Medicaid Care Management Organizations Act (the “Act”) requires the Care Management Organizations (CMOs) to provide a Hospital Statistical and Reimbursement (HS&R) report within 30 days upon request of a provider. Specifically, O.C.G.A. 33-21A-11 states:

Upon request by a hospital provider related to a specific fiscal year, a care management organization shall, within 30 days of the request, provide that hospital with an HS&R report for the requested fiscal year. Any care management organization which violates this Code section by not providing the requested report within 30 days shall be subject to a penalty of \$1,000.00 per day, starting on the thirty-first day after the request and continuing until the report is provided. It is the intent of the General Assembly that such penalty be collected by the Department of Community Health and deposited into the Indigent Care Trust Fund created pursuant to Code Section 31-8-152. A care management organization shall not reduce the funding available for health care services for members as a result of payment of such penalties.

Additionally, the CMOs must submit a list of the requested HS&R reports to the Department of Community Health (“the Department” or DCH) no later than 30 days following the calendar quarter period.



Objective

As requested by the Department, Myers and Stauffer LC (Myers and Stauffer) tested the data on the quarterly HS&R reports submitted by the CMOs in response to the “Act” for the quarter beginning July 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2021 (“Quarter 3”). We attempted to confirm the information reported by the CMOs to demonstrate their compliance with the HS&R reporting requirements of the “Act”.

The quarterly HS&R reports submitted to the Department by the CMOs contain the following data: the identification of hospitals that requested HS&R reports including location, name of report requestor, date the HS&R report(s) were requested, the date the CMO released the report to the hospital or requestor, and other related information.

HS&R reports were randomly selected for Peach State Health Plan to contact providers for confirmation of the dates reported by the CMOs. The Methodology section provides an overview of how we analyzed the data on the quarterly reports.



Methodology

In order to perform this analysis, we utilized the quarterly reports submitted to DCH by Peach State Health Plan. Peach State Health Plan’s report was obtained by accessing their web portal on November 4, 2021. For Quarter 3, 62 HS&R reports were submitted by Peach State Health Plan and can be found in Exhibit A of this report.

In accordance with the validation process approved by DCH, Myers and Stauffer requests confirmation of the CMO reported request and release dates from providers or their representatives. Using the HS&R reports provided by Peach State Health Plan, we sampled no less than 10 report requests.

Telephone calls or e-mails regarding 10 HS&R reports were initiated on November 30, 2021 and completed on December 13, 2021. Providers were asked to provide the date they requested the HS&R report and the date the CMO provided notification that the report was available.

A maximum of three attempts per provider were performed in an effort to acquire data for this analysis.

Once the data was collected, we analyzed the results and performed follow-up communication with Peach State Health Plan or the provider, as necessary. Provider responses were compared with the dates reported on each CMOs quarterly report.



Assumptions and Limitations

The assumptions and limitations summarized below should be noted when reviewing this report.

- Our procedures were not designed to identify instances where Peach State Health Plan may have failed to include a provider's request for an HS&R report in the report to DCH. However, had instances occurred where a provider stated they requested an HS&R report from Peach State Health Plan that was not included in the report to DCH, Myers and Stauffer would have communicated with Peach State Health Plan to confirm the information obtained from the provider.
- Myers and Stauffer accepted a verbal or an email confirmation for information received from providers.
- If there was a disagreement between Peach State Health Plan and provider, Myers and Stauffer accepted the documentation submitted by Peach State Health Plan as confirmation.
- If instances occurred where a provider stated they received a requested HS&R report from Peach State Health Plan after 20 days and that report was originally excluded from our confirmation process, we would have communicated with Peach State Health Plan to confirm the information obtained from the provider.
- As instructed by the Department, if the due date of the report, 30 days after the report was requested, fell on a Saturday or Sunday, the next business day was assumed to be the due date for purposes of this analysis.



Report Results

This section provides the results of the analysis of the Quarter 3, 2021 HS&R report.

Table I. Report Analysis

CMO	Reports - Requested	Reports - Released Greater Than 30 Days	Sample Reports	Reports - Confirmed	Reports - Disagreed	Unable to Reach
Peach State Health Plan	62	0	10	8 (80%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (20.0%)

For the Quarter 3 analysis, 10 out of 62 HS&R reports were sampled. The results indicate information reported by Peach State Health Plan was confirmed for 80 percent (8 of 10) of the HS&R reports. Providers were deemed unreachable after three contact attempts were made represents 20.0 percent (2 of 10) in the sample.

Table II. Length of Time between Request and Release Dates for HS&R Report Requests

CMO	Days Between Request and Release Dates		
	Minimum	Average	Maximum
Peach State Health Plan	0.0	1.4	7.0

The statistics included in Table II are based on the request and release dates reported by Peach State Health Plan for Quarter 3. The minimum number of days taken to release an HS&R report to a provider was zero days while the maximum number of days taken to release an HS&R report to a provider was seven days.



Findings

Peach State Health Plan

For Quarter 3, four representatives were contacted regarding 10 HS&R report requests. The request and release dates reported by Peach State Health Plan were confirmed for 8 requests. We were unable to confirm two report requests as one provider was deemed unreachable after contact was initiated three times. Myers and Stauffer did not identify any HS&R reports released by Peach State Health Plan to a provider that were greater than 30 days. We did not identify any HS&R reports released by Peach State Health Plan that were greater than 20 days.

Based on our findings, Peach State Health Plan did not have any cases of late reporting for the quarter beginning July 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2021.



**EXHIBIT A: PEACH STATE
HEALTH PLAN QUARTERLY
REPORT**

HS&R Report Timeliness Validation
State Fiscal Year 2022