

[(e)] (D) "Health care practitioner" means [any person that provides health care services and is licensed under the Health Occupations Article] ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

[(f)] (E) "Health care service" means any health or medical care procedure or service rendered by a health care practitioner that:

(1) Provides testing, diagnosis, or treatment of human disease or dysfunction; or

(2) Dispenses drugs, medical devices, medical appliances, or medical goods for the treatment of human disease or dysfunction.

[(g)] (F) (1) "Office facility" means the office of one or more health care practitioners in which health care services are provided to individuals.

(2) "Office facility" includes a facility that provides:

(i) Ambulatory surgery;

(ii) Radiological or diagnostic imagery; or

(iii) Laboratory services.

(3) "Office facility" does not include any office, facility, or service operated by a hospital and regulated under [Subtitle 2 of this title] PART II OF THIS SUBTITLE.

[(h)] (G) "Payor" means:

(1) A health insurer or nonprofit health service plan that holds a certificate of authority and provides health insurance policies or contracts in the State in accordance with this article or the Insurance Article;

(2) A health maintenance organization that holds a certificate of authority in the State; or

(3) [A] FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE ONLY, A third party administrator as defined in § 15-111 of the Insurance Article.

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(a) The Commission shall establish a Maryland medical care data base to compile statewide data on health services rendered by health care practitioners and office facilities selected by the Commission.

(b) In addition to any other information the Commission may require by regulation, the medical care data base shall:

(1) Collect for each type of patient encounter with a health care practitioner or office facility designated by the Commission:

(i) The demographic characteristics of the patient;