

Provider Directory API Guide



Prepared By:
Acentra Health
1600 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1000
McLean, VA 22102



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Preface

Purpose and Scope

On March 9, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the Interoperability and Patient Access final rule (CMS-9115-F). This rule requires CMS-regulated payers to make provider directory information publicly available via a standards-based API. Making this information broadly available will encourage innovation by allowing third-party application developers to access information so that they can create services that help patients find providers for care and treatment, as well as help clinicians find other providers for care coordination, in the most user-friendly and intuitive ways possible.

This document describes ACENTRA's Interoperability Solution that supports the new CMS mandate.

Document Conventions

This document uses the following conventions:

- The term “you” refers to the application owners who use this document.
- Italicized portions of the URLs represent placeholders for adding tenant-specific details.
- Screen and hyperlink names appear in bold font.

Audience Requirements

This document is intended for third-party application owners or developers who need to know how to connect their applications to Acentra's Provider Directory API and for payers implementing the API to provide data to third-party applications via the API.

Chapter 1 – Overview

The Acentra Interoperability Solution is engineered to support the business and technical requirements defined in the CMS mandate (CMS Final Rule 9115-F). The solution leverages provider directory information as anchors in conjunction with data exchange standards, such as HL7® Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®), United States Core Data and Interoperability (USCDI), and CMS recommended Implementation Guides (IGs), like the Da Vinci PDex Plan Net Version 1.1.0 (STU 1).

Figure 1 provides a diagram of the overall solution.

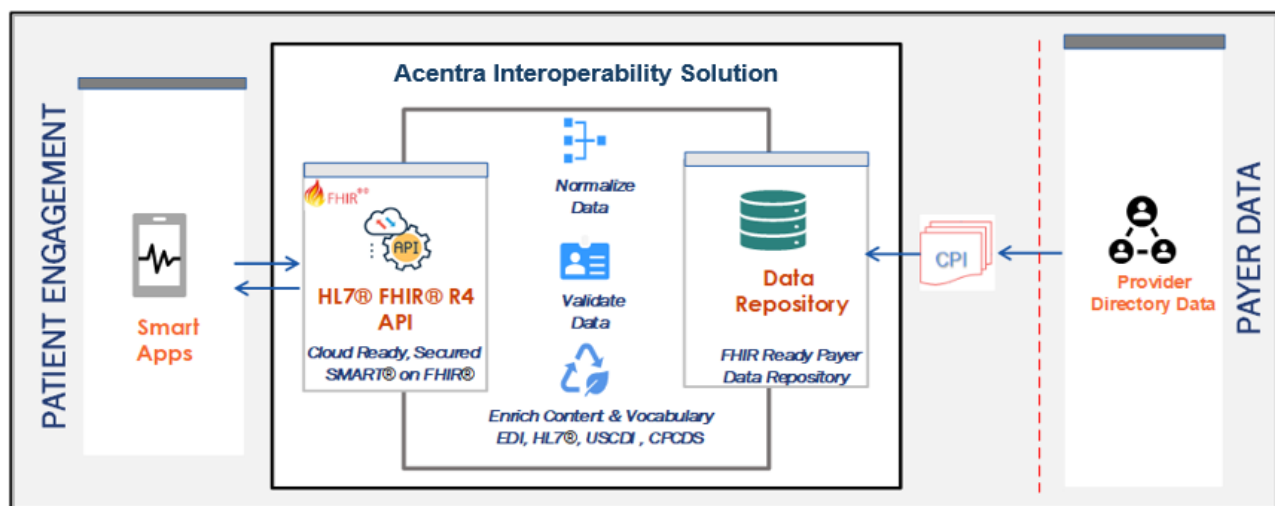


Figure 1. Acentra Interoperability Solution - Provider Directory API

Table 1 Describes the features of the components of the Acentra Interoperability Solution.

Table 1. Provider Directory API Solution Components

Component	Features
Mapper	Enables translation of Payer data to a Common Payer Interface (CPI), leveraging pre-built data intake templates. Streamlines the data mapping for Payers using standardized business attributes with lineage across Plannet profiles, leveraging the HL7®, USCDI, and other data standards. Normalizes and enriches the data before loading to the FHIR Ready Payer Data Repository (FPDR).
Data Repository	FHIR Ready Payer Data Repository (FPDR) integrated with the CPI, enables inter-related models for storing and retrieving data via logical views for Provider Directory Data. Data will be loaded from the payer systems on a defined cadence and supplemented with the historical data necessary to meet the data

Component	Features
	availability requirement. The Provider and the Organization will be loaded daily
FHIR Adapter	Facilitates the retrieval of data from FPDR and integrates with the FHIR Server.
FHIR Server	Implements the REST API service to enable FHIR Standard responses based on CMS-recommended DaVinci PDEX Plan Net profiles.

1.1 Data Flow

The finalized Provider Directory data is extracted from the Payer Systems into the pre-defined CPI data intake templates. The extracted data files will be sent to the Acentra Interoperability Solution using Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) and will be imported into the FHIR-ready Payer Data Repository (FPDR) using the Mapper. Figure 2 depicts a high-level data flow.

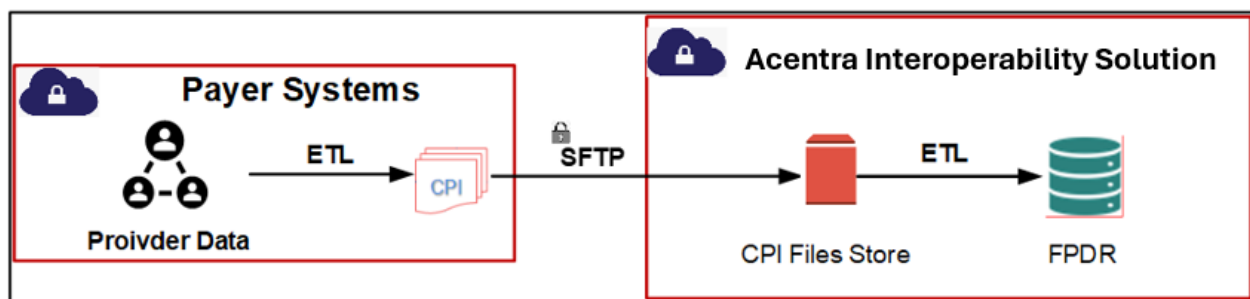


Figure 2. Provider Directory API – Data Flow – Payer Systems to FPDR

As part of this process, Acentra's Interoperability Solution normalizes, validates, and enriches the Provider Directory data to make it FHIR-ready for third-party apps. The DaVinci PDEX Plan Net profiles combine key information about insurance plans, their associated networks and the organizations and providers that participate in the networks.

Chapter 2 – Provider Directory API

Provider Directory API facilitates secure movement of data from payer systems (Producers) to the patients (Consumers) accessible via third-party consumer applications. The Provider Directory API leverages the CMS-recommended DaVinci PDEX Plan Net Implementation Guide (IG) STU1 along with data exchange standards, such as HL7 FHIR.

Acentra's Interoperability Solution ensures that the data in transit and at rest is encrypted. The application owner is not required to register to access the Provider Directory API. Similarly, the Provider Directory API does not require authentication/authorization.

2.1 Provider Directory API Documentation

Table 2 provides the links to the online documentation for the Provider Directory API.

Table 2. Online Documentation - Provider Directory API

Function	Online Documentation
Provider Directory IG	DaVinci PDEX Plan Net HL7.FHIR.US.DAVINCI-PDEX-PLAN-NET\Home - FHIR v4.0.1
Profiles	DaVinci PDEX Plan Net Profiles https://hl7.org/fhir/us/davinci-pdex-plan-net/STU1.1/artifacts.html#structures-resource-profiles
Search Parameters	 Provider%20Directory%20API-Search%20Parameters
Error Codes	 FHIR-Error%20Codes _Provider%20Directory

2.2 FHIR Server Sandbox Environment

Acentra's Interoperability Solution's Sandbox Environment provides a synthetic but reliable dataset for Provider Directory to help facilitate testing of the Provider Directory API. The Sandbox dataset represents real data and ensures consistency across the dataset.

Detailed information about Acentra's Interoperability Solution Sandbox Environment can be found at <https://sandbox.mhbapp.com/index.html>.

As shown in Figure 3, the Acentra Sandbox FHIR server documentation portal provides all the required information for the third-party app developers to connect and access the Sandbox FHIR server for Provider Directory API.

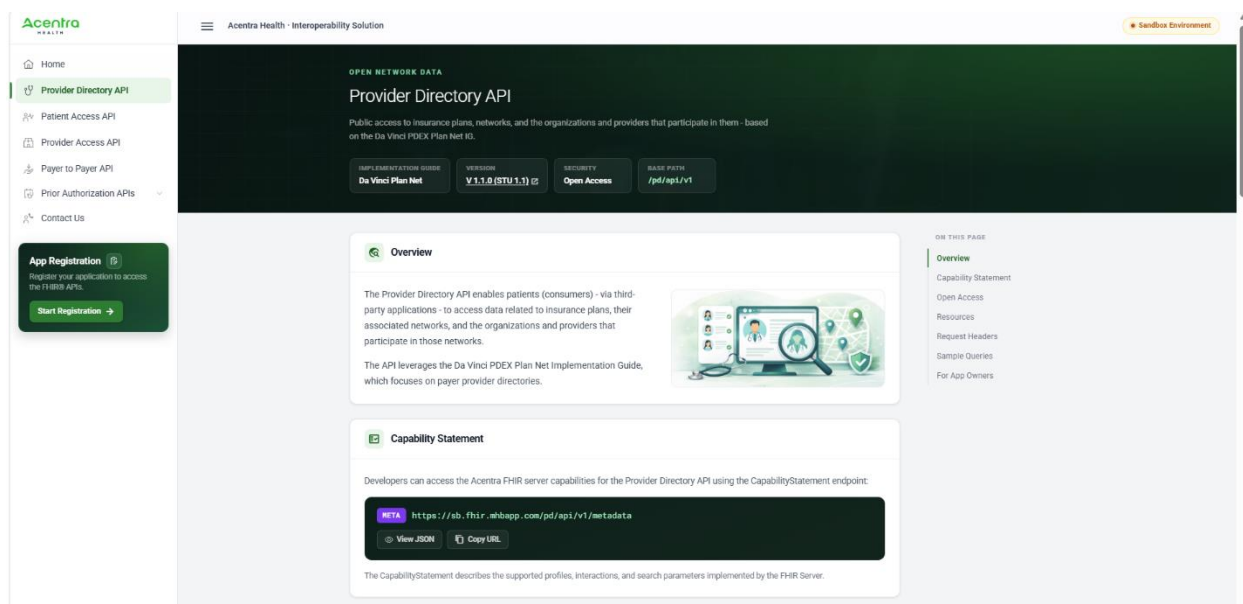


Figure 3. Acentra Sandbox Environment – Online Developer Documentation

2.3 Accessing the Sandbox Environment

The application owner is not required to register to access Provider Directory API. Similarly, the Provider Directory API does not require authentication/authorization. Please refer to the Sandbox FHIR server documentation information at <https://sandbox.mhbapp.com/index.html>.

2.4 Base URLs

Three types of FHIR server URLs are provided below for Provider Directory API.

- Acentra Sandbox
- UAT
- Production

Table 1 provides the base URLs for the FHIR server for the Provider Directory API.

Note: The base URLs are not accessible via browser and are meant to be accessed programmatically.

Table 3. Base URLs for Provider Directory API

Environment	Base URL Provider Directory API (base_url_pd)
Acentra Sandbox	https://sb.fhir.mhbapp.com/pd/api/v1/
UAT	<a href="https://<tenant-id>.np.fhir.mhbapp.com/pd/api/v1/">https://<tenant-id>.np.fhir.mhbapp.com/pd/api/v1/
Production	<a href="https://<tenant-id>.fhir.mhbapp.com/pd/api/v1/">https://<tenant-id>.fhir.mhbapp.com/pd/api/v1/

2.5 Capability Statement

The capability statement describes the set of capabilities (behaviors) implemented by the FHIR Server; for example, it describes the enabled profiles, interactions, and search parameters.

The FHIR server capabilities for Provider Directory API can be accessed using the Capability Statement endpoint: https://<<base_url_pd>>/metadata

Please refer to Table 3 for the base URLs for Provider Directory API. For example - the sandbox environment Capability URL will be: <https://sb.fhir.mhbapp.com/pd/api/v1/metadata>.

2.6 Resources

The Acentra Interoperability Solution's Provider Directory API supports the resources listed in Table 4.

Table 4. Resources

Resource	URL
PlannetPractitioner	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/Practitioner">https://<<base_url_pd>>/Practitioner
PlannetPractitionerRole	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/PractitionerRole">https://<<base_url_pd>>/PractitionerRole
PlannetOrganization	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/Organization">https://<<base_url_pd>>/Organization
PlannetOrganizationAffiliation	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/OrganizationAffiliation">https://<<base_url_pd>>/OrganizationAffiliation
PlannetLocation	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/Location">https://<<base_url_pd>>/Location
PlannetNetwork	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/Organization">https://<<base_url_pd>>/Organization
PlannetInsurancePlan	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/InsurancePlan">https://<<base_url_pd>>/InsurancePlan
PlannetHealthcareService	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/HealthcareService">https://<<base_url_pd>>/HealthcareService
PlannetEndpoint	<a href="https://<<base_url_pd>>/Endpoint">https://<<base_url_pd>>/Endpoint

2.7 Request Headers

All requests for Provider Directory API resources require the headers outlined in Table 5.

Table 5. Request Headers

Headers	Values
content-type	application/json
accept	application/json

Chapter 3 – Connecting to the Provider Directory API

The application owner is not required to register to access Provider Directory API. Similarly, the Provider Directory API does not require authentication/authorization.

Chapter 4 – Glossary

This section provides definitions for document-specific terms in the following format: Entries are in alphabetical order, and items beginning with numbers will come first.

Table 6. Glossary

Term	Definition
Application Programming Interface	An interface that defines interactions between multiple software applications.
Acentra Interoperability Solution	A solution created to support the business and technical requirements defined in the CMS mandate, CMS Final Rule 9115-F.
Payer Organization	A business entity that adjudicates and renders payment for health care claims, including pharmacy claims. Examples include Medicare, state Medicaid programs, and commercial insurance carriers. In this document, "Tenant" is also used to indicate the Payer Organization in relation to the environment.
Sandbox	An environment containing the hardware, instrumentation, simulators, software tools, and other support. Also known as a "test bed".
Tenant	See "Payer Organization".
Third-Party App	An application or program that is neither Acentra nor the Washington State Health Care Authority, that has authorized access via the API for the purpose of delivering data to authorized users (patients).

Chapter 5 – Acronyms

This section provides definitions for document-specific terms in the following format: Entries are listed in alphabetical order, and items beginning with numbers will come first.

Table 7. Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
API	Application Programming Interface
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CPCDS	Common Payer Consumer Dataset
CPI	Common Payer Interface
EDI	Electronic Data Interchange
FPDR	FHIR Ready Payer Data Repository
ID	Identification
IG	Implementation Guide
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
REST	Representational State Transfer
SFTP	Secure File Transfer Protocol
STU	Standard for Trial Use
UI	User Interface
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USCDI	United States Core Data and Interoperability