Addressing the opioid epidemic is critical for States. CNSI and IBM Watson Health have developed a solution for an addiction-identification tool that analyzes Medicaid claims for signs of opioid abuse both at the prescriber and beneficiary level. By sorting and analyzing health information datasets in Medicaid claims, we are able to identify outliers that may be indicative of addictive behavior. The data sources are curated using the IBM Watson Analytics solution from the Michigan’s Operational Data Store (ODS) platform that is a rich repository of structured data content along with the mostly unstructured clinical data and pharmacy prescription data. Leveraging Michigan’s private cloud and implementing various logistic regression models, the data is analyzed to get a holistic view of the patients, providers, and the interactions among them leading to the identification of outliers. Applying these models within the Michigan MMIS system which determines whether a bill has been improperly filed, allows for the real-time prediction and flagging of medical claims for further manual review by the state’s case management team. This predictive analysis could ideally prevent an addiction before it begins and hold irresponsible prescribers accountable.

This real-time predictive analysis has the power to prevent addiction before it begins and hold irresponsible prescribers accountable.

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How the State of Michigan is using Predictive Analytics to combat the epidemic

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Tackling the Opioid Epidemic in Medicaid*

- 130 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose
- $9.4B Spent on Medicaid coverage for people with opioid addiction*
- 10X Medicaid beneficiaries are ten times more likely to abuse substances than any other population
- 50 All 50 states are now implementing a prescription drug monitoring database – many in direct response to the opioid crisis

*Sources: Henry Kaiser Family Foundation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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