

ROBERT RICHARDS

PHD

Senior Manager, Data Products

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Current Responsibility

Robert Richards is a senior manager of data and analytics on the Data Products team, focusing on the collection and creation of high-quality referential data products about healthcare providers, payers, and markets. Robert guides the development and review of rigorous methodologies to ensure accuracy and integrity of data assets. He also assists with the scoping and design specifications of various data and analytical products. He leads research on real-world issues facing the healthcare industry, including policy developments such as network adequacy regulations, provider reporting requirements, value-based payment models, and emerging trends. He is a named inventor on seven patents issued by the US Patent and Trademark Office for his work on algorithms underlying the Milliman MedInsight Provider Registry product.

Professional Work Experience

Robert has over 12 years of experience in academic research and consulting on healthcare-related topics and quantitative data analysis. During his graduate studies at Duke University, he completed multiple research projects end-to-end, both coauthored and solo-authored, related to the politics of health policy in the United States. These involved a wide range of methodologies, from surveys and survey experiments to advanced statistical and economic modeling. Robert worked as a senior analyst at Leavitt Partners for two years, during which time he led the quantitative analysis on multiple client projects related to economic impacts of Medicaid expansion, value-based payment adoption and strategy, market landscape analysis, and network construction and composition. At Leavitt Partners and later at Milliman, he has led the methodological and dataset design aspects of a referential data product for use by healthcare industry analysts and executives.

Education

- PhD, Public Policy, Duke University
- BA, Political Science, Brigham Young University

Presentations and Publications

- Richards, R. and B. Merkey. Supercharging healthcare analysis with robust provider data. Milliman MedInsight, December 2024.

- Schock, B. and R. Richards. Exploring the provider landscape in Sickle Cell Disease through a gene therapy lens. Milliman MedInsight, December 2024.
- Nagpal, R., S. Sharma, and R. Richards. Emergency department super utilizers: More than meets the eye. Milliman MedInsight, August 2024.
- Richards, R. Roses and thorns: The nuanced landscape of healthcare provider data. Milliman MedInsight, August 2024.
- Larson, A., M. Egan, R. Richards, and C. Gusland. What predictive analytics can tell us about key drivers of MSSP results: 2021 update. Milliman, August 2021.
- Winfield, L., B. Zollinger, R. Richards, C. Gary, and D. Muhlestein. The Medicaid ACO Landscape. Leavitt Partners, May 2019.
- K. Edwards, R. Richards, & D.M. Muhlestein. The 2018 ACO Survey: Unique Paths to Success. Leavitt Partners, March 2019.
- Bleser, W.K., R.S. Saunders, D. Muhlestein, A. Olson, R. Richards, D. Taylor, and M. McClellan. 2019. Following Medicare's ACO Program Overhaul, Most ACOs Stay—But Physician-Led ACOs Leave at a Higher Rate. Health Affairs Blog, March 2019.
- Richards, R., C. Bay, and D. Muhlestein. Track Switching in Medicare ACO Programs: A Look at the Move to Downside Risk. Leavitt Partners, February 2019.
- Richards, R., N. Smith, D. Muhlestein, E. Krisle, and S. Morrison. Pathways to Success: Options for ACOs. Leavitt Partners. January 2019.
- Bordelon, A., A. Hanson, R. Richards, D. Muhlestein, and S. Mullin. Evaluating the Performance of State Individual Markets Using the Individual Market Effectiveness Index. Leavitt Partners. September 2018.
- Muhlestein, D., R.S. Saunders, R. Richards, and M. McClellan. Recent Progress in the Value Journey: Growth of ACOs And Value-Based Payment Models In 2018. Health Affairs Blog, August 2018.
- McClellan, M., R. Richards, and M. Japinga. Evidence on Payment Reform: Where Are the Gaps? Health Affairs Blog, April 2017.