

## Metadata Document for Independent Medical Review (IMR) Dataset

### What This Dataset Is About

- **Who Made It:** California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC)
- **What It Shows:** This dataset contains cases where people asked for a second review after their health insurance **denied, delayed, or changed** a medical treatment.
- **Years Covered:** From January 1, 2001, to present.

### Important Information in the Dataset

Field Name	What It Means
ReferenceID	A unique number for each case.
ReportYear	The year the case was reported.
DiagnosisCategory	The main health problem in the case.
DiagnosisSubCategory	A more specific type of the health problem.
TreatmentCategory	The main type of treatment requested.
TreatmentSubCategory	A more detailed type of treatment.
Determination	Shows if the insurance company's decision was <b>Upheld</b> (the insurance company <b>first said "No"</b> to covering a treatment, and after a review, they <b>still said "No."</b> ) or <b>Overturned</b> (first they said no but after review they said yes).
IMRType	The type of review: <b>Standard</b> (regular process) or <b>Expedited</b> (urgent cases needing quick answers).
PatientAge	The age of the patient.
PatientGender	The gender of the patient.
Findings	A short summary of what the review found and why the final decision was made.
DaysToReview	How many days it took to review the case.

Field Name	What It Means
DaysToAdopt	How many days it took to apply the final decision.

### Why This Dataset is Useful

- Helps understand **which medical treatments are often denied** and how many are later approved.
- Shows **trends in healthcare decisions** and how they affect people.
- Identifies **delays in medical reviews** and their impact on patients.
- Useful for **healthcare research, policy changes, and improving patient rights.**