

2009

## Risk Adjustment User Group



### December Meeting Notes

**Meeting Date:** December 16, 2009

**Meeting Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. EST

**In Attendance:**

**Panelists:** Chanda McNeal, Lateefah Hughes, Ann Marshall, Louis Johnson,  
Paige Dent and Shelia Young

*(Participants should reference the PowerPoint slides when reviewing the notes from the User Group Session.)*

### Payment Process

#### Payment Questions Response Update

CMS reported progress on response rates to questions received from plans via the [analyst@askriskadjustment.com](mailto:analyst@askriskadjustment.com) email address. CMS' reported response rates are as follows as of November 2, 2009:

- 95% September 2009
- 72% for October 2009
- 79% for November 2009

The response rates are an increase from the 38% since CMS transition from the prior email address. CMS has noticed an increase in the number of questions and the complexity of the questions submitted; and encourages plans to continue to submit these questions to CMS for responses.

CMS in 2010 will roll out a FAQ database for plans that will include all questions submitted to date. Plans should continue to submit payment questions to the [analyst@askriskadjustment.com](mailto:analyst@askriskadjustment.com) inbox. Questions submitted to other CMS staff may experience an increased delay since the CMS staff member must first retrieve and then forward the question to the payment inbox for response.

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#### Payment Updates

##### MA Coding Intensity

CMS will apply a MA Coding Intensity adjustment for 2010 to the following:

- CMS-HCC risk scores
  - Community and Institutional Aged
  - Community and Institutional Disabled
  - New Enrollee Aged
  - New Enrollee Disabled
  - Community and Institutional Post Graft
  - Post Graft New Enrollee

The MA Coding Intensity adjustment will not apply to the following risk scores:

- Dialysis
- Transplant
- Part D

#### Submission Deadline

Final submission deadline for dates of service in 2008 is January 31, 2010. CMS will reflect the payment on the August 2010 MMR.

#### Reruns

CMS is no longer accepting requests to delete data for dates of service 2005, 2006, and 2007. December 11, 2009 was the final deadline for these requests.

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#### Data Validation

##### 2007 Data Validation Updates

- Pilot – CMS has completed the Technical Assistance process and has begun the medical record review process. CMS is pleased with the increase in the VPN submissions of medical records and encourages this method of submission. CMS will submit receipt reports in December 2009 to plans, and if discrepancies exist, plans should utilize the contact information contained in the report to resolve the discrepancy.
- Targeted Sample – Plans will have 12 weeks to submit medical records and attestations. Refer to the table below for notification dates and stages to determine the 12-week submission date.

	Plans Notified of Stage Assignment	MAOs Receive Encrypted CD Containing Their Contract-Specific Data	Deadline for Submission of Coversheets, Attestations and Medical Records
Stage I	Oct. 23, 2009	Nov. 10, 2009	Feb. 9, 2010
Stage II	Nov. 13, 2009	Nov. 19, 2009	Feb. 18, 2010
Stage III	Dec. 4, 2009	Dec. 10, 2009	Mar. 11, 2010

- Plans should provide providers with detailed information that outlines the process and what they are requesting from the provider. Plans that provided

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the providers with incomplete information should attempt to follow-up with clarification of what the plan is requesting and include the plan contact information. Plans should not direct providers to CMS for clarification.

#### Operations Update

##### Operations FAQ

Q: A beneficiary recently enrolled in a plan, what information must the plan provide to the CSSC to perform a lookup of the diagnosis submitted by another plan for the specific beneficiary?

A: The plan must provide the beneficiary HICN, date of service, and provider type to retrieve this information. CSSC provides this service for plans attempting to resolve errors and not as a consistent method to reconcile payment.

##### CSSC Operations Closing

In observance of the following holidays, the CSSC will be closed:

- Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 2009
- Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, 2009
- New Years Day, Friday, January 1, 2010

However, the Front-End Risk Adjustment System (FERAS) will be available during this time to receive RAPS submissions.

#### Technical Assistance Update

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Next User Group meeting scheduled Wednesday, January 20, 2010, at 1:30 p.m.  
EST.

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