

2009

Risk Adjustment User Group



September Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: September 16, 2009

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

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

Topics:

Payment Process

Payment Questions Response Update

CMS reported progress on response rates to questions received from plans via the analyst@askriskadjustment.com email address. CMS' reported response rates are as follows:

- 89% June 2009
- 95% for July 2009
- 58% for August 2009

Since CMS' transition to a new email address in February 2009, the overall response rate to questions submitted to the payment email address is 89%.

Response time to questions depends on the type of question, number of questions in queue and if response requires coordination with other CMS departments. Plans not receiving a response to a question submitted may send a follow-up email to analyst@askriskadjustment.com regarding the status of the submitted question.

Payment-Related FAQ

Where can plans find CMS guidance for Factor Type G1 and G2 for 2009? More specifically, what are the relative factors? When we analyzed some of our members

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who had transplants in 2009, their risk factors per the MMR did not match our calculations/outcome.

CMS provides Information on factor types in the 2008 Advance Notice released on February 16, 2007. Plans may access the notice from the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/AD/list.asp>. The relative factor for G1 is 6.46 and 1.01 for G2.

In addition to applying the appropriate ESRD factors, plans must be certain to apply the normalization factor when attempting to match their payments to the Monthly Membership Report (MMR).

Payment Updates

CMS is implementing a system upgrade to correct hospice payments made to MA organizations in payment years 2006-2008. Affected plans may notice the adjustment in the October 2009 payments.

Data Validation

2007 Data Validation Updates

- Pilot – CMS extended the deadline to submit corrected medical record data to September 16, 2009. Plans must submit data by the end of the day via Virtual Private Network (VPN) or postmarked with date no later than September 16, 2009. Plans should direct any specific questions to the individual(s) listed on the CMS issued instruction packet.

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- Random – CMS has not contacted organizations for the random sample; however, will begin communications with organizations selected as the start date for random sample approaches.

Note: CMS has not identified a specific start date for the random sample.

- Targeted Sample – CMS is expecting to send a request to MA Organization Compliance Officers to provide primary contact information. The MA Organization will have two business days to provide CMS the information. CMS will provide the status of the audit and expectations as it relates to the instruction packet. CMS will provide training for organizations selected for the targeted sample; training will focus on the medical record submission process and medical record review processes. Plans will have 12 weeks to submit medical records and attestations from the CMS issued date.

Operations Update

Operations FAQ

Is there a rule against plans submitting a hospital inpatient other (02 provider type) diagnosis cluster without an inpatient primary (01 provider type) diagnosis cluster?

While there are no submission requirements limiting plans to only submitting 02 provider type diagnosis clusters without a 01 diagnosis cluster, there may be implications regarding validation and reporting.

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Reminder

CMS implemented a new FERAS error code of 166 that enforces the limit of 3,000 CCC records submitted in the test environment. Organizations with continued non-compliance in submitting individual files exceeding 3,000 records in the test environment, without permission, may face disciplinary actions by CMS, which may include their ability to submit data.

See September 2009 UG slides for reasons MA Organizations may submit test files.

Technical Assistance Update

Next User Group meeting scheduled: Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. EST. In the upcoming weeks, CMS will post the last quarter of 2009 UG session dates and the first quarter 2010 UG session dates.

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