2010

**Risk Adjustment
User Group**

**May
Meeting Notes**

Meeting Date: May 20, 2010

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

In Attendance:

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

Topics:

User Group (UG) Process

Following the UG presentation, participants have an opportunity to ask questions. Plans may also submit payment-related questions to analyst@askriskadjustment.com and data validation related questions to RADV@cms.hhs.gov following the UG session. PIN is required each time participants log into the UG session.

For additional information regarding the UG registration process, refer to the May 2010 UG slides posted on the www.csscoperations.com website.

Payment Process

CMS encourages plans to continue to submit payment-related questions to the analyst@askriskadjustment.com email address. CMS encourages plans that submit questions directly to Sean Creighton carbon copy (CC) the analyst@askriskadjustment.com email address. Currently, the status of the response rates to questions submitted as of May 2010 is as follows:

- 100% February 2010
- 96% for March 2010
- 71% for April 2010

Payment Update

CMS will implement new CMS-HCC and CMS-HCC ESRD Dialysis models in 2012. For the 2011, Calendar Year (CY) plans should use the CMS-HCC Risk Adjustment Model factors published in the 2009 Rate Announcement (released in April 2008) that can be accessed at,

http://www.cms.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2009.pdf.

For CY2011, the CMS-HCC ESRD Model factors plans should use the factors published in the 2008 Rate Announcement (released in April 2007) that can be accessed at,

http://www.cms.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2008.pdf.

CMS published a new updated 2011 Rx-HCC Risk Adjustment model in the 2011 Rate Announcement, which can be accessed at,

http://www.cms.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Downloads/Announcement2011.pdf.

CMS Model Update

CMS does not update the risk adjustment models each year. However, when an update occurs, CMS announces the updates in February and releases details in the announcement released in April.

Diagnosis File Update

Annually, since 2005, CMS publishes the Diagnosis Code File that links the diagnoses included in the model to the HCCs. The ICD-9 Coordination and Maintenance Committee host a public forum for requested updates and publish results on the CMS website and Federal Register. Following revision discussions, the ICD-9 codes generally become effective

in October of the following year and a complete listing of annual updates were made available through the Coding Clinic for ICD-9, during the fourth quarter of each year.

CMS then generally updates the Diagnosis Code file on the CMS website in October of each year. The file is posted at, http://www.cms.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/06_Risk_adjustment.asp#TopOfP.

Payment FAQ

When will an age coefficient for a beneficiary change in a given year?

For example, a beneficiary enters a plan on January 1 at the age of 69 and on February 17, the beneficiary turns 70.

CMS will use the age of the beneficiary as of February 1 of the payment year. If the beneficiary enters a plan on January 1 at the age of 69 and on February 17, turns 70, for risk adjustment purposes the beneficiary is 69 years of age, until the following February.

Data Validation

CY 2007 Targeted and CY 2008 National Sample -

CMS will generate two types of sample-specific reports for the CY 2007 Targeted and CY 2008 National Sample. The reports are described in detail in the April 2010 User Group slides, which can be obtained from the Customer Service and Support Center website at http://www.csscoperations.com/new/usergroup/2010usergroupinfo.html.

CMS released the reports to the plan-designated contacts (Medicare Compliance Officer (MCO) and primary and secondary contacts). The two reports are the:

- Technical Assistance Report –
  – MA organizations must review and report any issues to the Intake Medical Record Review Contractor (IMRRC) as directed via VPN or secured fax.
- Medical Record Receipt Report

CY 2008 Contract-Level Sample

CMS will notify the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and MCO of MA organizations selected for CY2008 Contract-Level Sample. CMS will provide in-person training to the selected organizations at CMS and the training will be available via webinar. CMS currently does not have a specific date scheduled for training.

CY 2008 National Sample

CMS notified MAOs of selection on December 14, 2009. The purpose of the National Sample is to comply with the Improper Payment Information Act (IPIA) to annually report and measure the Part C payment error rate to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

RADV New Mailbox

CMS has implemented a new RADV Mailbox, RADV@cms.hhs.gov. Plans should no longer submit RADV questions to Mary.Guy@cms.hhs.gov as noted in the May 2010 slides (Slides 6 and 26). MAOs may submit RADV questions to this mailbox and the RADV team will review and answer questions via this mailbox. Mary Guy and Carolyn Kapustij will be answering general RADV questions.

CMS anticipates with the implementation of the new mailbox, tracking capability and shorter turnaround times.

Operations Update

2011 Calendar Year RAPS Submission Timetable*

Dates of Service	Initial Submission Deadline	First Payment Date	Final Submission Deadline
July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	September 3, 2010	January 1, 2011	N/A
January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010	March 4, 2011	July 1, 2011	January 31, 2012

*The RAPS Submission Timetable is available on the Customer Service and Support Center Website at http://www.csscoperations.com/new/rapformat/newraps.html.

CSSC Operations will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 31, 2010. However, the Front-End Risk Adjustment System (FERAS) will be available to accept files during this period.

Technical Assistance Update

Next User Group meeting scheduled: Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. EST.

A training initiative presented by

CMS
CENTERS for MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES