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# Encounter Data User Group Call

## Q&A Documentation

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### Questions and Answers – December 1, 2011 Session

**Q1: If an original encounter is submitted with a frequency code of '1', is accepted and receives an ICN, then a chart review is submitted and linked to the original encounter, and the MAO or other entity deletes the original encounter, will the linked chart review also need to be deleted?**

**A1:** CMS is working to establish a step-by-step sequencing of the chart review process. The final guidance will be communicated during a future User Group session.

**Q2: When a service is denied in the MAO or other entity's adjudication system, the units of service will be "0". Will an encounter be rejected if there are lines that are included with units of service as '0'?**

**A2:** The units of service only apply to billed units of service, not authorized units of service. The units of service must be submitted by the provider as "0" for this rule to apply.

**Q3: Are MAOs and other entities still on hold to resubmit files in anticipation of final edits being implemented by CSSC?**

**A3:** Yes, MAOs and other entities are asked to hold resubmission of files until issues with the NPI file and revenue codes have been resolved. The revenue code solution was included in the most recent release of the CEM and is in testing. When these issues are resolved completely, CMS will notify MAOs and other entities requesting that they resubmit their files for testing.

**Q4: What is the required date for completion of End-to-End testing?**

**A4:** CMS is working to finalize the date for completion of End-to-End testing. CMS intends to issue guidance to MAOs and other entities by December 14, 2011.

**Q5: Is it acceptable to create a "dummy" duplicate encounter in a separate file for test submission when the MAO or other entity is using processing software that prohibits the system from submitting duplicate encounters?**

**A5:** Yes. MAOs and other entities may create a "dummy" duplicate encounter in order to meet end-to-end testing guidelines.



**Q6: For the end-to-end test cases that were provided to MAOs and other entities on December 1, 2011, is it correct to submit the encounters at the submitter level versus the contractor/plan level?**

**A6:** Yes, the encounters submitted for test cases should be sent at the submitter level.

**Q7: What is the expected release date for the data file layout for the Risk Adjustment report?**

**A7:** The data file layout has been reviewed and finalized by the Encounter Data Processing System Contractor and CMS expects to provide the data file layout by December 15, 2011 during the User Group session.

**Q8: Can CMS provide updates for the status of the NPI crosswalk in order for MAOs and other entities to begin submission of client data?**

**A8:** CMS is working to resolve issues with the NPI national view and to obtain access to the required data fields in order to load the appropriate national files. CMS will provide further guidance when information is received regarding this issue.

**Q9: Is there any edits or error guidance that CMS will be providing, in addition to the business and test cases, to direct MAOs and other entities regarding edits that will occur on the processing and pricing level?**

**A9:** CMS will submit a preview of the edits to the industry in order to obtain feedback from MAOs and other entities prior to finalizing the edits. Once finalized, a list of the edits applied at various stages of processing will be included in the Companion Guide.

**Q10: Regarding CEM edits, how should MAOs and other entities handle the impact to providers when inbound edits may differ from outbound edits?**

**A10:** CMS will provide a CEM Edits release schedule and guidance for utilization of the schedule to MAOs and other entities in order to remain up to date on changes that occur with the CEM edits.

**Q11: What is the guidance regarding populating default values for chart reviews? Is it acceptable to submit "dummy" data for the loops and segments in order to create a valid X12 to pass the translator and the CEM?**

**A11:** A chart review must be submitted as a complete encounter in order to pass the translator and the CEM. Currently, "dummy" data is acceptable; however, CMS has not defined the specific data elements that will be acceptable data for production. For testing purposes, "dummy" data is acceptable.



**Q12: How will CMS handle the January 3, 2012 data for End-to-End testing with submission of test data and the production date with submission of live data occurring consecutively?**

**A12:** MAOs and other entities will begin to submit live data for production once they have completed End-to-End testing and received certification.

### Questions and Answers – December 1, 2011 Slide Presentation

**Q1: Can the default NPIs established for atypical providers be populated if an NPI is not present on a claim or is not available to the MAO or other entity?**

**A1:** No. Atypical Provider NPIs were designed specifically to support the submission of data collected from atypical providers. MAOs and other entities should not use these NPIs for any other submission. Please be aware that data submitted with Atypical NPI will not be used for risk adjustment.

**Q2: Is the ambulance pick up and drop off locations required for encounter data submissions?**

**A2:** Yes. Pick up and drop off locations are required inputs to the Fee-for-Service Ambulance Fee schedule and the WPC indicates that these elements are required when billing for ambulance or non-emergency services.

**Q3: If an MAO or other entity submits an encounter that contains the valid NPI for the Billing/Service Provider but the Taxonomy Code does not match the Taxonomy Code in National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) for the given NPI, would CMS Edits reject this encounter?**

**A3:** While the taxonomy code is not required for encounter data submission, if an MAO or other entity submits the taxonomy code it must be a valid value. If an invalid taxonomy code is provided on the encounter, the EDFES will reject the encounter. The EDFES or EDPS will not edit that the taxonomy code is associated to the NPI; therefore, the EDS (EDFES or EDPS) will not reject the encounter as long as the NPI is a valid NPI according to the NPPES tables.

**Q4: If a claim line is denied, will the edit that requires Units of Service to be greater than zero be turned off?**

**A4:** If the encounter was denied in the MAOs and other entities system due to the units of service of "0", that would be considered an "unprocessable" encounter. Under the rules for encounter data, CMS considers that encounter rejected. Units of service is a required field and all edits associated with this field will be included in the EDFES and EDPS processing logic. When MAOs and other entities submit this encounter with a value of "0" or less than zero, it will be returned as rejected on the 999.

**Q5: The TR3 states that Loop 2300 HI - ANESTHESIA RELATED PROCEDURE is situational and is required on claims where anesthesiology services are being billed or reported when the provider**



**knows the surgical code. If the surgical HCPC code is not reported for an anesthesia claim, will the encounter be rejected by CMS?**

**Is it acceptable to use a crosswalk to derive the surgical HCPC code from the anesthesia reported code?**

A5: The situational segment, HI - ANESTHESIA RELATED PROCEDURE, in Loop 2300 on the 837P, is not a required segment, as a result, if the segment is not used CMS will not reject the encounter.

**Note:** When the service dictates the use of the HI - ANESTHESIA RELATED PROCEDURE in Loop 2300, the data populated must adhere to WPC/TR3 and the CMS edit spreadsheet criteria.