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# Encounter Data User Group Q&A Documentation

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## Questions and Answers – June 7, 2012 Live Session

**Q1: What are the CMS requirements for submission of encounter data for Over-the-Counter (OTC) drugs?**

A1: MAOs and other entities will continue to submit pharmacy and Over-the-Counter (OTC) data through Prescription Drug Event (PDE) submission. Currently, CMS has no plans to alter the submission process for pharmacy data.

**Q2: Should MAOs and other entities resubmit encounters that have received the edit code 02110 – Beneficiary Health Insurance Carrier Number (HICN) Not on File after validating that the correct HICN was submitted on the encounter?**

A2: CMS is currently researching and analyzing system issues with edit code 02110 – Beneficiary Health Insurance Carrier Number (HICN) Not on File. MAOs and other entities that receive this error after validating the correct HICN should not resubmit the encounter, but complete an [EDS Incident Tracking Report](#) identifying the ICN and error message received.

**Q3: Will CMS consider revising the testing and certification timeline for DME encounter data submission until the DME Companion Guide is available for MAOs and other entities to reference for programming development?**

A3: CMS is evaluating the revision of the DME testing and certification timeline and will notify MAOs and other entities if changes are made.

**Q4: Will CMS consider revising the naming convention for MAO-002 report files to identify test versus production files?**

A4: CMS is working with the Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS) programmers to include an indicator in the naming convention for the returned MAO-002 reports to differentiate between test and production files and will notify the industry when this revision is complete.

**Q5: Because the Encounter Data Front-End System (EDFES) is unable to alter the naming convention for acknowledgment report files returned to submitters, will CMS consider establishing separate reports for test and production files?**

A5: CMS will consider and evaluate the option of establishing separate EDFES reports for test and production files.

**Q6: Will CMS provide guidance regarding reconciliation of MAO-002 reports that are returned with rejected encounters that do not include edit codes and/or error messages?**

A6: All rejected encounters and rejected lines identified on the MAO-002 report should identify an edit code and error message description. MAOs and other entities that have received rejected lines and/or encounters on the returned MAO-002 reports that do not include the edit codes and/or messages should submit an EDS Incident Tracking Report using the [EDS Incident Tracking Report](#).

**Q7: Will the EDS accept encounters submitted without diagnosis codes?**

A7: Encounters submitted without required data, such as diagnosis codes, will not be accepted by the Encounter Data System (EDS) and are considered unprocessable. MAOs and other entities must validate and reconcile all encounters received from providers, verifying that required data is present on the encounters prior to submitting to the EDS.

**Q8: What is the guidance for submission of encounters that have been paid by the MAO or other entity but contain an unprocessable line?**

A8: An unprocessable line or encounter is defined by missing or incorrect data, such as invalid or expired HCPCS codes, invalid or expired diagnosis codes, and syntax or formatting errors and will be rejected by the EDS. All rejected lines must be extracted from the encounter prior to submission to the EDS. MAOs and other entities must return any encounters or encounter lines to the provider for correction. After receipt of corrected data, the MAO or other entity may submit an adjustment encounter to the EDS for processing.

**Q9: Can CMS provide guidance on the submission of encounters with dates of service (DOS) that span from 2011 to 2012?**

A9: CMS is currently developing final guidance for encounters with DOS spanning from 2011 to 2012. Once it is tested and approved, CMS will publish the guidance in the EDPS Bulletin and the next release of the Professional and Institutional Companion Guides.

**Q10: Will CMS provide documented guidance regarding notifications that are generated from the EDFES after receiving an accepted 277CA report that will cause the EDPS to reject encounter submissions?**

A10: The EDFES provides customized notifications to assist MAOs and other entities with correcting submission of test and production data files. Written documentation regarding these notifications will be published in the next release of the Professional and Institutional Companion Guides.

**Q11: Can CMS provide clarification for Institutional edit code 20505 – Accurate Ambulance HCPCS and Revenue Code Required regarding submission of HCPCS Mileage Codes A0425 and A0380?**

A11: CMS will research edit code 20505 – Accurate Ambulance HCPCS and Revenue Code Required and provide updated guidance in the EDPS Bulletin and during the next User Group session.