
Encounter Data User Group Q&A Documentation

Questions and Answers – November 29, 2012 Live Session

Q1: Is the Institutional file size limitation of 5,000 encounters per file a temporary requirement?

A1: At this time, the file size limitation requirement is not temporary. Fee-for-Service (FFS) maintains the Common Edits and Enhancements Module (CEM) utilized by the Encounter Data System (EDS) for front-end editing; therefore, the file size limitations imposed by the CEM maintainers are required for processing by the EDS. The FFS maintainers are considering an enhancement to the CEM by merging the Professional and Institutional CEM environments to allow for larger file submissions. CMS will notify MAOs and other entities when further decisions are made regarding the enhancement.

Q2: Will the 2013 quarterly release of the EDS Companion Guides be maintained on the same schedule as the CMS CEM Edits Spreadsheets?

A2: The CMS CEM Edits Spreadsheets and EDS Companion Guides are maintained and distributed separately. FFS maintains the CMS CEM Edits Spreadsheets and the EDS maintains the EDS Companion Guides. Although quarterly releases of the EDS Companion Guides and the CMS CEM Edits Spreadsheets may fall within the same release months, the release cycles will not be concurrent.

Q3: How should MAOs and other entities submit encounters generated from paper claims when specific data elements are not captured or are not required for adjudication, but are required by the EDS for translator and CEM level editing?

A3: CMS developed and released a list of the specific Minimum Data Elements required for submission of all encounters to pass Encounter Data Front-End System (EDFES) editing. MAOs and other entities can access the [Minimum Data Elements](#) document located on the CSSC Operations website.

Q4: Does CMS validate encounters generated from paper claims that are submitted using the Minimum Data Elements differently from other encounter submissions?

A4: The EDS utilizes the same editing logic to validate all encounters submitted on the 5010 837X format, whether they originate from an EDI claim or a paper claim. MAOs and other entities should flag encounters generated from paper claims as such by populating Loop 2300, PWK01='OZ', PWK02='AA'.

Q5: For submission of a True Coordination of Benefits (COB) encounter, how should the SVD01 segment be populated when there is another primary payer?

A5: Population of Loop 2430 SVD01 (Other Payer Primary Identifier) is required at the line level and must match the corresponding data in Loop 2330B NM109 (other payer primary identifier). For True COB submission, the other payer information is required at the header level only.

Q6: Does CMS require MAOs and other entities to submit Medicaid data to the EDS if the organization does not submit their Medicaid data directly to the State Medicaid Encounter Data System (MEDS)?

A6: CMS requires that all Medicaid data be omitted from EDS submission, regardless of participation status with the State MEDS program.

Q7: Will the pricing of encounters be affected by the deactivation of the EDFES balancing edits?

A7: EDS bases pricing algorithms on FFS logic and includes additional elements other than charge amounts, such as procedure codes, to determine pricing for encounter data. Therefore, pricing will not be determined solely on balancing of charge amounts. Once the balancing edits are deactivated in mid-December 2012, CMS will analyze the impact that the deactivation may have on pricing of encounters and notify MAOs and other entities of the results.

Q8: Where can MAOs and other entities access the 2012-2013 User Group schedule?

A8: The December 2012 and 1st quarter 2013 User Group schedule is published on the [TARSC](#) website.

Q9: How can MAOs and other entities obtain an update regarding the release of the DME Job Aid?

A9: The DMEPOS Job Aid is currently under review to determine guidance for appropriate utilization. CMS will provide further information on the DMEPOS Job Aid once the review is complete and guidance is finalized.

Q10: How will CMS use the 2012 data collected from encounter data submissions?

A10: CMS will use all 2012 encounter data submissions for analysis and research to further improve EDS implementation, such as processing and pricing guidelines, risk filtering guidance, and compliance measures. MAOs and other entities' submission of 2012 data allows CMS to better determine specific updates and enhancements required for MAOs and other entities to successfully submit data to the EDS. As the EDS implementation progresses, CMS will provide intermittent updates regarding data collection and analysis.

Q11: Are MAOs and other entities required to submit all encounter data information for SNF/HH claims?

A11: Currently, MAOs and other entities are required to submit SNF/HH encounter data, including HIPPS codes, if they are available. Effective July 2013, MAOs and other entities will be required to submit HIPPS codes for SNF/HH encounter submissions.

Q12: How will CMS enforce the 13-months timely filing requirement for 2012 encounter submissions?

A12: CMS has not made final determinations regarding enforcement actions for the 13-months timely filing requirement. Enforcement action will be based on the volume of production data submitted for 2012 and will not be implemented until appropriate notification is provided to MAOs and other entities.