
Encounter Data User Group Q&A Documentation

Questions and Answers – October 4, 2012 Live Session

Q1: Will CMS enforce compliance for the Production Data Catch-Up schedule if MAOs and other entities do not meet the initial deadline of October 15, 2012 for submission of January 2012 DOS encounter data?

A1: CMS will evaluate the submission volume for the Production Data Catch-Up plan and will notify MAOs and other entities prior to taking any compliance action. CMS will extend the initial submission deadline of October 15, 2012 to October 29, 2012 for those MAOs and other entities that require additional time to submit January 2012 DOS. All other deadlines will remain as indicated in the Catch-Up Plan.

Q2: Will CMS provide clarification regarding the timely filing guidelines for submission of correct/replace and void/delete encounters?

A2: If an MAO or other entity submits an original adjudicated encounter within 13 months from the date of service on the encounter, and then receives an adjustment for that encounter from the provider after the 13 months from the date of service, the MAO or other entity must submit the correct/replace or void/delete (adjusted) encounter within 30 days after adjudication.

Q3: How should MAOs and other entities submit encounters received from providers that do not contain the data elements required by Medicare (i.e., appropriate revenue codes or Ambulance HCPCS and mileage codes)?

A3: CMS provided guidance in the 2012 Encounter Data Participant Guide and the EDS Companion Guides that account for encounters that do not contain specific data elements required for encounter data submission. CMS will also provide a reference tool in a future release of the EDS Companion Guides to provide guidance for prevention and resolution strategies for edits received for these submissions.

MAOs and other entities may reference the Participant Guide and Companion Guides published on the CSSC Operations website at www.csscooperations.com.

Q4: What is the edit logic for Institutional error code 32001?

A4: Institutional error code 32001 is a reject error generated for the submission of Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) encounters and is currently not an active error code. CMS is evaluating the submission requirements for Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF), Home Health, Hospice, Critical Access Hospital (CAH), and

Swing Bed encounter data, and will provide guidance for data submission and associated errors for these encounters during a future User Group session.

Q5: When will CMS allow MAOs and other entities to begin submission of SNF and Home Health encounter data?

A5: CMS is currently establishing guidance for submission of SNF and Home Health encounter data and will provide guidance once final determinations are made.

Q6: Should MAOs and other entities submit encounters that contain Medicare and Medicaid service lines?

A6: MAOs and other entities are only required to submit Medicare covered services to the EDS. Because CMS currently collects Medicaid encounter data through a separate processing system, it is not necessary to submit Medicaid only services to the EDS. To prevent duplicate submission of Medicaid data, MAOs and other entities must extract the Medicaid service lines from their encounter submissions and include the justification for the extraction in Loop 2300 NTE01=ADD, NTE02='MEDICAID CLAIM CHANGE DUE TO MEDICAID SERVICE LINE EXTRACTION'.

Q7: What is the guidance for submission of multiple service lines that use the same CPT/HCPCS code to provide multiple increments/units of time?

A7: CMS is reviewing the requirements for submission of duplicate CPT/HCPCS codes to provide multiple units of time. CMS will work with the EDS analysts and communicate the findings to MAOs and other entities.

Q8: How should MAOs and other entities reconcile encounters that receive error code 32005 – Payer ID Not DME for DME MAC Jurisdiction?

A8: The Encounter Data Processing System (EDPS) has identified a defect for error code 32005 related to the reference table. The EDPS programmers are currently analyzing the edit and the reference table to determine if updates are required. CMS will provide updated guidance in the EDPS Bulletins and EDS Companion Guides.

Q9: What is the point of contact to obtain materials for the semi-monthly User Group sessions if MAOs and other entities do not receive the materials prior to each session?

A9: MAOs and other entities that are registered to participate in the semi-monthly User Group sessions and have not received the User Group materials prior to each session should contact the User Group Registrar at 888-330-9994 or email the Registrar at TARegistrations@tarsc.info.

Q10: How should MAOs and other entities reconcile encounters that receive error code 20505 – Accurate Ambulance HCPCS and Revenue Code Required?

A10: Edit Code 20505 is a known issue in the EDPS. The EDPS programmers are currently analyzing this edit to determine the root cause. CMS will provide immediate guidance in the EDPS Bulletins and during upcoming User Group sessions.

Q11: Are MAOs and other entities required to reconcile errors for historical data in their internal processing systems, such as Patient Discharge Codes and mapping of National Drug Code (NDC) numbers? If so, what is the expected compliance action for not meeting this requirement within the timely filing period?

A11: CMS is currently evaluating the requirements for reconciliation of historical data and will provide guidance once decisions are made.

Q12: What are the error benchmarks for encounter data submissions?

A12: CMS is evaluating and analyzing the guidelines for compliance enforcement. Initial compliance actions will be based on the volume of production data submitted. CMS will determine error benchmarks after evaluation and analysis of consistent production data.

Q13: Can CMS provide guidance for populating the required fields for ZIP codes that begin with “0”?

A13: CMS requires MAOs and other entities to populate the full nine (9)-digit ZIP code using only numeric characters. For the purposes of encounter data submission and CEM edits, zero (0) is a numeric character; therefore, MAOs and other entities may use zero (0) as a leading number when populating the ZIP code.

Q14: Will MAOs and other entities be required to submit encounter data for contracts acquired from a parent organization that is terminating their contract with CMS?

A14: An acquiring parent organization is not required to submit encounter data that was submitted to or for a terminating parent organization prior to the organization’s termination date. All claims submitted to the terminating organization must be submitted by the terminating organization through the run-off period.

Q15: Will CMS provide a list of the EDPS Known Issues?

A15: CMS will continue to notify MAOs and other entities of the EDPS Known Issues and system enhancements as they occur through the EDPS Bulletins and User Group sessions presentations.