ENCOUNTER DATA
Quarterly Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

Schedule Updates: User Group Updates

CMS presented the first of its series of bi-weekly Encounter Data User Group sessions on November 3, 2011. These teleconferences will provide the Industry with operational and policy updates as we move closer to the January 2012 implementation.

Participants are encouraged to send questions to eds@ardx.net seven days prior to the User Group for inclusion in the presentation materials. As time allows and answers are available, the EDS Project Team will address these questions during the teleconference. Materials from the User Group meetings will be posted on www.tarsc.info following the session.

At the beginning of each quarter, CMS will announce the scheduled User Group sessions on www.tarsc.info.

2011 User Group Dates
11/17
12/01
12/15

For questions regarding the Encounter Data Newsletter please contact eds@ardx.net.

During the October 27th Industry Update, sample layouts of EDPS Transactional Reports were presented to the industry. Based on feedback submitted by MAOs and other entities, the following updates are being provided for clarification and are being incorporated into the reports:

• The beneficiary HIC Number will be added to the MAO-004 Encounter Data Risk Adjustment Filter Report to assist MAOs and other entities with tracking diagnoses that are accepted for risk adjustment.
• The "Transaction Date" displayed on MAO-004 Encounter Data Risk Adjustment Filter Report identifies the data submission date. This date allows MAOs and other entities to identify the model diagnosis list (based on year) where the diagnoses codes were accepted.
• For one encounter file which contains an MAO Claim Control number (CCN), only one (1) Internal Control Number is assigned to the encounter in EDPS.
CMS will provide further updates on EDPS reports to incorporating industry feedback in late November 2011.

Getting Your Feedback: Foreign Service Providers

CMS is working on edits for foreign provider encounter submissions. These encounter submissions are unique cases where the subscriber receives care from a foreign provider located abroad. CMS is requesting industry feedback on how foreign providers are currently handled. CMS is interested in industry input on foreign provider submissions.

• How often are foreign service provider encounters being submitted in your organization?
• What formats are used to receive the foreign provider submissions?
• Are standard ICD-9 or CPT/HCPCS codes used for foreign providers?

All comments, suggestions, or questions may be submitted to eds@ardx.net.

Submission File Size Limitations

FTP and NDM users may submit up to, but no more than 85,000 encounters per file. The TR3 guidance allows up to 5,000 CLMS per ST-SE. When guidance is followed with 5,000 claims in each ST-SE, only 17 ST-SEs can be sent, which comprises the total of 85,000 encounters. The 85,000 maximum encounters per file may be submitted in any combination of number of encounters per ST-SE and is not required to be exactly 85,000. Due to system processing overhead associated with smaller numbers of encounters within the ST-SE, CMS recommends larger numbers of encounters are submitted. Should there be further questions or concerns regarding the issue, please submit questions to the EDS Inbox at eds@ardx.net.