



**Data Submitter Users Group
Teleconference Minutes
March 16 and March 20, 2007**

Present: There were approximately 40 participants registered for the 3/16 call and 50 participants registered for the 3/20 call.

Staff Present: Debbie Rickelman, Shannon Verbos and Brian Competente

NPI Update

There are no new updates on the NPI dissemination policy. Ms. Rickelman did share a letter that was sent to Secretary Michael Leavitt last month stating that federal agencies are also discussing how unhappy they are that no dissemination policy has been implemented yet.

Since there is no way for WHA Information Center (WHAIC) to validate provider NPIs when they are submitted, WHAIC **will not require** provider NPIs as of July 2007. Until CMS puts the dissemination policy into place, WHAIC will not allow provider NPIs indefinitely. WHAIC will require the submission of either the WI license number or UPIN. Once the dissemination policy is in place, WHAIC will discuss with facilities to determine how soon the submission of provider NPIs can be implemented.

Ms. Rickelman did note that facility NPIs could be submitted, along with sub-parts, if any. Facilities would need to provide the proper documentation stating the NPI assignment to the facility. Since the legacy 10-digit facilityID would be submitted on the record, we could verify that it is correct.

UB-04 Testing

WHAIC is almost completed with its internal testing. If your facility is ready to send test files, please contact Brian Competente as early test files will not be sent via the interface, but submitted on the back-end. WHAIC will open up the interface later for testing. Mr. Competente will be setting up new usernames/passwords for the updated WIpops system.

Present on Admission Indicator Update

Ms. Rickelman has updated the Frequently Asked Questions on Present on Admission Indicators (POA):

http://www.whainfocenter.com/dsug_minutes/POA_FAQs.pdf

Ms. Rickelman noted that CMS must issue its transmittal by May 1, 2007 to implement POA by October 1, 2007. Below is a link to the draft of the transmittal:

http://www.whainfocenter.com/dsug_minutes/Att3POA_OTN1DRAFTFIN.pdf

Ms. Rickelman will be meeting with Sheila Goethel (RWHC) and Penny Osmund (WMS) later next week to discuss ways to get feedback from physicians regarding POA. Ms. Rickelman wants to discuss educational tools and audiences to reach with POA. WHA's Education Department has a conference or possible webinar in the planning stages to share POA education with senior managers in hospitals.

Vendors on the conference call shared their programming experiences already with POA:

- ❖ 3M has a field for the POA indicators in their encoder, and has an edit requiring the field is filled unless the codes are on the exempt list
- ❖ Eclipsys has had a field for POA for some time in both their encoder and medical record abstracting software, since they have a client in New York. They do allow for a dummy code, but also have an edit in place for exempt codes.
- ❖ McKesson does have the capability to capture POA.
- ❖ Meditech does have a field to collect POA, but it is not required.
- ❖ QuadraMed allows blanks, and also edits for exempt codes.

Ms. Rickelman will follow-up with other coding, abstracting, and billing vendors and report at the April meeting.

Race & Ethnicity Follow-Up

Ms. Rickelman has updated the Frequently Asked Questions document for Race & Ethnicity. The link is below, and these have also been added to the WIpop manual.
http://www.whainfocenter.com/dsug_minutes/FAQS_RE.pdf

Ms. Rickelman looked for feedback from those that participated in the recent WHA webinar on Race & Ethnicity with Debbie Pierce from AHA/HRET. Ms. Rickelman did follow-up with AHIMA regarding possible CE credits. If you participated and are looking for CE credits, please contact Brian Competente to receive them. The credits were classified as performance improvement. Click here for a link to the webinar:
<http://www.wha.org/qualityAndPatientSafety/raceEthnicity.aspx>

WHAIC will later take a more focused look at the data in 2007. A caveat will be added for Q1 2007 stating the transition to the new race & ethnicity coding system. WHAIC sees this as valuable information to improve care. Overall, the data on race & ethnicity has improved statewide.

Outpatient Workgroup

Below are the hospitals/systems that have volunteered in the Outpatient Workgroup:

- ❖ Aurora Healthcare
- ❖ Mercy Health System
- ❖ Meriter Hospital
- ❖ Ministry Healthcare



- ❖ St. Mary's, Green Bay/HSHS
- ❖ UW Hospital & Clinics

Once these groups identify all who will be participating, WHAIC will work on scheduling the first meeting. Ms. Rickelman noted that Mercy Health System and Ministry Healthcare represent critical access hospitals in the workgroup. WHAIC wanted critical access hospitals included because of their billing differences. Ms. Rickelman wanted to stress that this group is not being developed to dictate billing practices for facilities. After each meeting, WHAIC will share the information with all data submitters.

Statement From and Through Validation Reports

WHAIC has sent out validation reports for the Statement Period Covers From and Through Dates on records (POS 3-7) verifying that the From and Through dates do reflect the service dates in the revenue record. These validation reports are optional changes for Q4 2006 and Q1 2007. An edit will be implemented into Wlpop starting with Q2 2007 data submissions. The edit will check to see if the From date is equal to the minimum service date. The Through date will allow a one-day grace period after the maximum service date. Ms. Rickelman did note that there has been improvement with the submission of these dates.

Ms. Rickelman did ask the question on the national level on what dates the From and Through dates should reflect on a record. She was told that the From and Through dates were meant to reflect the billing dates on a record.

PricePoint and Reportable Procedure Group Updates

In running internal validation reports, WHAIC implemented Reportable Procedure Groups to verify that facilities did not forget to send groups of care. It was noted that on PricePoint, the Reportable Procedure Groups did not include all codes. There will be an effort in 2007 to make these groups as accurate as possible. Hopefully, the Outpatient Workgroup can help with these classifications.

Next Conference Call will be scheduled for Thursday, April 19. Please contact Brian Competente to RSVP.