



Update
June 30, 2006

The UB-04 is coming: As many are aware, a new standard billing form for hospital services, the UB-04, will be implemented in 2007. This means that hospital billing systems and other information systems will have to be reprogrammed to capture, produce, and/or report new types of data for billing purposes. Those changes also have implications for the data that is extracted and reported to WHA Information Center.

WHA Information Center's Data Submitter User Group reviewed all of the changes related to the UB-04 claim form, and related changes in data submission requirements, on two recent conference calls. Minutes from those two calls are accessible through the Information Center's Web site: http://www.whainfocenter.com/dsug_minutes.htm.

As facilities prepare for the implementation of UB-04, data submitters should familiarize themselves with the related data submission changes that will occur in 2007.

The UB-04-related changes will become effective with 3Q07 data submissions, but two other changes will occur earlier:

- Race/ethnicity codes will be updated to reflect national standards, beginning with 1Q07 data submissions.
- As mentioned in the fall 2005 training sessions and in numerous other communications, ICD-9-CM procedure codes will no longer be allowed on outpatient records beginning with 1Q07 data submissions.

Please do not hesitate to contact WHA Information Center (whainfocenter@wha.org) for more information about the 2007 data submission requirements.

Important Dates and Deadlines

August 4: Deadline to request a 30-day extension for submission of 2Q06 inpatient, outpatient surgery, emergency-department and observation data and 1Q06 other hospital outpatient data.

August 15: Standard deadline for submission of 2Q06 inpatient, outpatient surgery, emergency-department data and observation data and 1Q06 other hospital outpatient data.