



Update
June 1, 2007

NPI Data Dissemination Policy Published: The federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on May 30 published a data dissemination policy for the new National Provider Identifiers (NPIs) that must be used in health care transactions.

WHAIC's final plans for collecting NPIs as provider identifiers have been delayed pending clarification on the extent to which WHAIC would have access to an NPI database for validation purposes. We now know that HHS' policy will make the database available as of June 29, 2007.

As indicated in the Fall 2006 data submitter training sessions, WHAIC will begin collecting NPIs once the verification data table can be constructed from the disseminated data. The timeline for NPI implementation will be discussed during the June 21 Data Submitter User Group conference call. Contact Brian Competente (bcompetente@wha.org) if you are interested in participating in the call.

The text of the announcement, from the May 30, 2007, *Federal Register*, and a list of frequently asked questions, can be accessed through the WHAIC Web site: http://www.whainfocenter.com/dsug_minutes.htm

Goodbye, Debbie: Debbie Rickelman, an original WHA Information Center staff member, has resigned to take a new position with Amphion Medical Solutions. Debbie's last day at WHAIC was May 30. During this transition time, messages intended for Debbie should be directed to Julie Callies (jcallies@wha.org or 608-274-1820).

Debbie was well-known to data submitters and hospital quality personnel, and will be missed by her WHAIC colleagues. We wish her all the best in her new position.

Important Dates and Deadlines

June 15: Extended submission deadline for 4Q OHO 2006 and 1Q 2007 inpatient, outpatient surgery, ER and observation records. *(Must have extension request approved by WHAIC to use this deadline).*

June 21: Data Submitter User Group conference call, 10:00 a.m.