

# Risk Adjustment User Group



## January 2009 Meeting Notes

**Meeting Date:** January 21, 2009

**Meeting Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. EST

*(Participants should reference the PowerPoint slides when reviewing the notes from the User Group Session.)*

### Topics:

#### Payment Process

#### Final Reconciliation

January 31, 2009 is the final reconciliation date for data submitted with dates of service from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. Plans should submit this data by Thursday, January 29, 2009, to allow time to review their risk adjustment return reports and to resubmit, if required, any corrected data by January 31, 2009.

#### Payment Research

On November 28, 2007, CMS began receiving plan submitted payment questions through the [raf\\_payment\\_questions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:raf_payment_questions@cms.hhs.gov) email address. To date, CMS has received 198 questions, and has resolved 135, a 68% resolution rate. Questions included topics such as:

- Missing Hierarchical Condition Codes (HCC),
- Model Output Report (MOR),
- Enrollment ,
- Medicaid status, and
- Hospice with no risk score.

CMS has implemented an enhanced payment question submission process, which will better serve plans. The enhanced system, for example, will provide a status of the question that is available to the submitter. Thus, plans should no longer submit questions to the [raf\\_payment\\_questions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:raf_payment_questions@cms.hhs.gov) email

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address, but should begin submitting their questions to the new email address at [analyst@askriskadjustment.com](mailto:analyst@askriskadjustment.com).

Plans should contact Chanda McNeal, regarding the status of any outstanding questions previously submitted to the [raf\\_payment\\_questions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:raf_payment_questions@cms.hhs.gov) email address. You may contact Chanda at [chanda.mcneal@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:chanda.mcneal@cms.hhs.gov).

## Data Validation

### 2007 Data Validation

The Risk Adjustment Data Validation (RADV) for payment year 2007 is a medical record review of diagnoses for data collection for contract year 2006. CMS bases the 2007 RADV samples on beneficiaries continuously enrolled in a contract from January 2006 through January 2007 that have at least one HCC.

### Updates to the Four Data Validation Sampling Types

**Contract Specific Sampling Types** – (used to estimate contract-level payment errors)

- Pilot Sampling – In June 2008, CMS notified five plans of their selection for pilot sampling. The Initial Validation Contractor (IVC) completed the review of the selected samples, and the Secondary Validation Contractor (SVC) is in the final stages of reviewing the medical records.
- Targeted Sampling – In November 2008, CMS notified thirty plans of their selected enrollees for the targeted sample. The CMS contractor, HMS, will send the selected plans an instruction packet that contains the required data

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submission instructions. Plans will have 12 weeks from the date of receipt of the packet to submit the required medical records.

- Random Sampling – CMS has not notified plans of random sampling selections.

## Other Sampling

- National Sampling - In December of 2008, CMS notified the plans selected for the national sample. Plans that were included in the national sample have received their instructional packets, which included the methods for submitting data:

- virtual private network,
- fax,
- hard copy, and
- CD

The deadline for submitting medical records for the national sampling is Friday, February 27, 2009.

## CMS Reminders

Plans should:

- Ensure that providers do not submit medical records directly to CMS, instruct providers to send medical records to the plan and not CMS, and select the best available medical record for data validation;
- ensure medical record requests sent to providers are complete; and
- should not highlight items in the medical record.

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## Operations Update

Prior to submitting risk adjustment data, plans should note:

- An authorized representative must sign a completed EDI agreement.
- Plans must mail the original EDI agreement to CSSC and may not fax the agreement.
- In cases where plans have elected to use a third party submitter, the plan must submit:
  - An EDI agreement that contains the signature of the MA organization's authorized representative.
  - A letter, on the organization's letterhead, that authorizes the third party to submit data on behalf of the MA organization.

CSSC will assign a unique submitter ID to the plan or submitter. Please be aware that the MA Organization is ultimately accountable for all submissions whether it submits the data or chooses a third party submitter to submit on its behalf.

## Technical Assistance Update

The User Group (UG) registrar will begin updating the UG attendee's database. The registrar will send out emails in approximately two weeks, and will request a response.

Next User Group meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2009, at 1:30p.m. EST.

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