

2009

Risk Adjustment User Group



May 2009
Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: May 20, 2009

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

In Attendance:

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

Topics:

User Group (UG) Process

CMS will post the 2009 UG notes and Q&As and the updated Risk Adjustment Participant Guide to the Customer Service Support Center (CSSC) website (www.CSSCoperations.com) in May.

Payment Process

Payment Research

CMS transitioned to a new email address (analyst@askriskadjustment.com) to receive payment related questions from plans. Because of the transition, the response rate has increased from 38% resolved to 77% resolved in March 2009 and 50% resolved in April and May 2009.

Questions that are more complex require additional research. CMS assigns a remedy ticket for questions requiring MMA Helpdesk assistance and forwards the remedy ticket to the submitter of the question, for tracking purposes.

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Meeting Notes

Midyear Update

CMS scheduled the midyear update to take place in June of 2009 for the July 2009 payment. Plans can identify Part C adjustments under Reason Code 26 and Part D adjustments under Reason Code 41.

Medicare as Secondary Payer (MSP)

On May 14, 2009, CMS provided all MA and PACE organizations a beneficiary-level file that contained information to use in development of 2010 Part C bids.

Frequently Asked Questions

What should plans do if the risk factor for a beneficiary is zero on the MMR?

Plans should confirm the beneficiary is not a Hospice or Cost Plan enrollee. If the enrollee is not Hospice or Cost Plan, the plan should submit an enrollee sample to the analyst@askriskadjustment.com mailbox for further research.

If a member transfers from another Medicare Advantage plan, can the current plan submit diagnosis clusters with dates of service that pre-date the member's eligibility in the new plan? Example: If a member joins a MA Organization (Plan A) on August 1, 2008, can "Plan A" submit dates of service from January 2008 through July 2008, or only dates of service after August 1, 2008?

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No, the plan can only submit data with dates of service on or after the beneficiary's enrollment date in its plan.

Data Validation

2007 Data Validation Updates

- Pilot Sample – CMS notified selected plans in June of 2008 and sent Medical Record Request in July of 2008. The Initial Validation Contractor (IVC) and Second Validation Contract (SVC) are reviewing the data. Analyses are currently in progress and CMS anticipates release of findings in the near future.
- Targeted Sample – CMS notified selected plans in November 2008. There is currently no date available for release. However, CMS will notify the plan's primary contact, secondary contact, and Compliance Officer of any updates via email. Plans will then have 12 weeks to provide requested information.
- Random Sample – Currently no timetable has been set.
- National Sampling – CMS notified plans in the national sample in December 2008. The medical review submission deadline was February 2009. IVC and SVC medical reviews are in progress.

RADV Questions

Submit all RADV questions to Ann.Marshall@cms.hhs.gov.

Operations Update

Frequently Asked Questions

How can plans register to receive Email Notifications from CSSC Operations?

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Plans may register by accessing the http://www.csscooperations.com/new/registration_home_raps.htm link and the welcome page displays. Plans should follow the directions on the page to complete the process.

Note: Plans registered for the CSSC email notifications, will receive notifications of updates to the 2008 Risk Adjustment Participant Guide and 2009 User Groups' Notes and Q&As.

Where can we find the ICD-9-CM Codes, CMSHCC, and RxHCC models?

Plans may obtain both future and current risk model diagnosis codes from the http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/06_Risk_adjustment.asp website.

CSSC Closing

In observation of Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2009, CSSC will be closed. However, the Front-End Risk Adjustment System (FERAS) will be available for submissions during this period.

Technical Assistance Update

Next User Group meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at 1:30p.m. EST.

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