

CMS LTCH Software Developer/Vendor Call

Meeting Minutes

LTCH October 1, 2014 Release

Thursday, July 25, 2013

12:00 p.m - 1:30 p.m. ET

Conference Call Number: 1-866-712-2205

Conference code: 4260581739

Welcome Jack Williams, DQSAS, CMS

- Welcome to the CMS LTCH Software Developer / Vendor call.
- The purpose of this call is to provide information to LTCH software developers and vendors who are creating or have created software for LTCH providers for the April 1, 2014 implementation of the LTCH CARE submission data specifications and the LTCH item set, version 2.00.
POST MEETING NOTE: The implementation date has been changed to July 1, 2014.

Data Submission Specification Updates Dave Malitz, Stepwise Systems

- The latest version of the data submission specifications is version 1.01.0, which was posted in June. In addition, we have posted two versions of the errata document. The errata document is cumulative so you only need the latest one. We discovered this week that both versions are currently posted on the LTCH tech specs web page. The latest one is the first entry under "downloads". It contains 20 issues and is dated July 17, 2013. Please make sure you have the latest version of the specs and of the errata document. The outdated errata version will be removed from the website.
- The data specs version corresponds to version 2.00 of the item set. Both the item set and the specs are scheduled for implementation on April 1, 2014. Both should be considered draft until the LTCH final rule is published.
- Please check the LTCH technical specs web page on a regular basis to look for updates so that you can be confident you are using the latest version of the specs.
- The best summaries of the modifications made to the data specs since October 2012 (the version currently in effect) are detailed in the Item Change Report, the Edit Change Report, and the errata document.
- Item changes:
 - Many of the changes involved adding the response option [=] to voluntary items. This response option allows the assessor to indicate that they are not providing a response because the item is not mandatory. This is distinct from a dash where the assessor wishes

to provide a response but the information is unavailable. Note that the [=] option is available on only some items. Many items on the item set are considered mandatory and do not allow the [=] option.

- Two sets of items were added: A2520 (program interruptions) and O0250 (influenza vaccination).
 - Several items were discontinued: A1050 (highest education level completed), A1300D (lifetime occupations), A1810 (medical services received in last two months), A1820 (primary diagnosis in prior setting), A1955 (discharge delay), A1960 (reason for discharge delay), A1970 (discharge return status), M0610 (pressure ulcer length, width, depth), and M0700 (most severe tissue type for any pressure ulcer).
 - Removed several items from planned and unplanned discharge item sets: B0100 (comatose), GG0160 (functional mobility), H0400 (bowel incontinence), I0900 (peripheral vascular disease), I2900 (diabetes), I5600 (malnutrition), and K0200 (height and weight).
 - One confusing change: the correction number was changed from A0055 to a control item (CRCTN_NUM) in the data specs. But after reviewing this, we rescinded the change and left this item as A0055 (see issue #07 in the errata document).
 - Other miscellaneous changes. See a detailed listing in the item change document.
- Edit changes:
 - Many of the changes involved creating or revising edits to handle the voluntary response option [=].
 - Most of the rest of the changes were to handle new or discontinued items.
 - A few miscellaneous changes. See a detailed listing in the Edit Change report.
 - Errata document:
 - Most important change is the implementation date has been changed from 01/01/2014 to 04/01/2014 (issues 02, 03, and 04).
 - Issue 13: caret [^] will no longer be accepted for A0500A (patient first name).
 - Various miscellaneous issues. See a detailed description listed in the errata document.
 - Please continue monitoring the tech specs web page for additional updates. We expect to post final specs after the LTCH final rule is published.

ASAP System Enhancements.....Jean Eby, Telligen

- The ASAP system will be updated to accommodate all of the changes Dave Malitz just mentioned as well as all changes identified in the Item Change and Edit Change reports. There are no additional changes to the ASAP system for the October 2014 release.

Validation Utility Tool (VUT).....John Jackson, GDIT

- The VUT will continue to validate as it has in the past.
- Only one installation of the VUT is needed because the newest version is cumulative. The logic can handle both new and old data specs.
- The VUT mandate is to validate as many edits as possible; however, there are limitations. The following are validations the VUT cannot perform:
 - Cannot validate the lookup FAC_IDs against a master list because the VUT does not have access to the master list. It can verify the FAC_ID length is correct.
 - Cannot validate any edits that require a comparison between two assessments, such as a modification to an original record.
 - Cannot validate if assessments are properly sequenced.
 - Does not validate informational edits because the purpose of the VUT is to identify errors. Informational edits are outside the scope of work for the VUT.

Discussion of Submitted Q & A'sLori Grocholski, CMS

The following are vendor questions submitted in advance of this conference call, along with the answers.

Question Number	Submitted Question	Answer
1	I'd like to confirm that the new forms will apply to admissions beginning 4/1/14, so any patient already admitted prior to that date will get a discharge assessment based on the previous version of the forms?	The new LTCH CARE Item Sets V2.01 will apply to ALL records with a target date on or after 04/01/2014. If A0250 = 01 (admission assessment), then the target date = A0220 (admission date). If A0250 = 10, 11, 12 (discharge assessment) then the target date = A0270 (discharge date).
2	The Section O questions are active on the admission, planned discharge and unplanned discharge forms. I don't see anything that would check for consistency between the	There are no item consistency checks applied by the ASAP system between admission and discharge records. Only record sequencing edits apply to multiple records.

Question Number	Submitted Question	Answer
	admission and discharge answers (nor any clarification in the manual). Will the information need to be completed for both admit and discharge, and if so will there be any check on consistency between those submissions?	
3	I'd like to confirm, based on the most recent Errata document (5/30/13), that First Name will be required for submission, and that an assessment will be rejected if it is missing?	Yes, Item A0500A-First Name, will be required on all records with a target date on or after April 1, 2014. A record with a target date on or after 04/01/2014 will be rejected if the first name is missing.

Q & A SessionLori Grocholski, CMS

Question	Responder/Answer
Edit 3900 (dash submitted may result in payment reduction) does not apply to the new vaccine measures. Will this edit be phased out or if no equal sign for voluntarily skipping, will it apply? How will that work?	Ellen Berry asked that this question be submitted to policy staff at the following email box: LTCHqualityquestions@cms.hhs.gov
Please elaborate on the new discharge for program interruption date. Define interruption date, please.	Jack Williams that this question be submitted to policy staff at the following email box: LTCHqualityquestions@cms.hhs.gov

Closing CommentsJack Williams, DQSAS, CMS

Thank you for your participation today.

Please refer to the bottom of these meeting minutes for important resources to keep you updated on documentation, news, and changes.

If you have policy questions, please send them to LTCHqualityquestions@cms.hhs.gov

Refer back often to <https://www.qtso.com/vendor.html> for updated information. We will hold another vendor conference call once data specifications are finalized.

Important Resources

QTSO.com

<https://www.qtso.com>

<https://www.qtso.com/vendor.html>

<https://www.qtso.com/vendorltch.html>

<https://www.qtso.com/ltch.html>

CMS.gov - LTCH Quality Reporting

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/LTCH-Quality-Reporting/index.html?redirect=/LTCH-Quality-Reporting/>

CMS.gov – LTCH Quality Reporting Technical Information

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/LTCH-Quality-Reporting/LTCHTechnicalInformation.html>

E-mail LTCH Technical Issues

LTCHtechissues@cms.hhs.gov

Listserv

<http://www.cms.gov/OpenDoorForums>