CMS LTCH Software Developer/Vendor Call
Meeting Minutes
Topic: July 1, 2014 Release

Thursday, December 12, 2013
2:30 – 3:30 p.m. ET
Conference Call Number: 1-866-712-2205
Conference code: 426 058 1739

Welcome ....Lori Grocholski, CMS

- Welcome to the CMS LTCH Software Developer / Vendor call. The purpose of this call is to provide technical information to LTCH Software Developers and Vendors who are creating or updating software for the July 1, 2014 LTCH CARE data set release.

- Please note that CMS policies related to the LTCH CARE data set are not the focus of vendor calls.

Submission Data Specification Updates .... Dave Malitz, Stepwise Systems

- The latest version of the LTCH CARE data submission specifications, version 1.01.0, was posted in June 2013. In addition, several errata documents have been posted. The latest errata document was posted in September and is dated September 4, 2013. The errata document is cumulative and contains all issues/updates being made to the version 1.01.0 of the specifications. The errata document is the first entry under "downloads" on the CMS LTCH QRP website's technical information page. Please make sure you have the latest version of the specs and of the errata document.

- The data specs correspond to version 2.01 of the LTCH CARE data set. Both the data set and the specs are scheduled for implementation on 07/01/2014. Both should be considered draft at this time.

- A brief summary of important changes in the most current errata document follows.

  - The most current version of the errata document was posted after the previous CMS LTCH Software Developer/Vendor call held in July. New issues added to the errata since the previous call are numbered 15-27.

  - Issues 25-27: The most important issues deal with the implementation date for the data specs. This date was moved from 04/01/2014 to 07/01/2014.

- Issue 17: This issue deals with two edits (1025 and 1026) where the reference to the old item name (CRCTN_NUM) will be changed to A0055. The basic logic remains the same.

- Issue 18: This issue explains how the text of edit 3920 will be modified to make it more compact and easier to read. The logic remains the same.

- Issues 19-20: These issues deal with the item subset code (ISC). An informational edit, 9002, will be added that explains the logic for calculating the ISC. Edit 1034 will be revised to better explain how ASAP will handle submitted ISCs in the ITM_SBST_CD control item. When a record is submitted, the ASAP system will use the logic in 9002 to recalculate the ISC. If the recalculated ISC doesn't match the submitted ISC, the record will be rejected with a fatal error.

- Issues 21-23: These issues deal with the CCN (CMS Certification Number) that is submitted in item A0100B. In the original specs, A0100B was not a required item and could contain either a caret or equal sign. However, to make LTCH assessment data consistent with data captured in other data systems, the CCN in A0100B will be a required item. As explained in issue 21, this means that the caret and the equal sign will not be accepted. Issue 22 explains that the submitted CCN must be 6 characters in length and contain letters and/or numbers. Issue 23 describes a new item, the calculated CCN that will be added to the data specs. This is not a submitted item, so it doesn't affect the information that must be included in your submission files. The calculated CCN will be created by ASAP when a submission file is processed to validate the submitted CCN. It will be stored in the ASAP system's database and included in extract files that are created from that database for various purposes.

- The remaining issues in the errata document are minor fixes.

- Please continue monitoring the CMS technical information web page for additional updates. Remember that the data specs and the item set are draft and subject to change until CMS receives OMB approval for the item set. We expect to post final submission data specs in the upcoming months.

- A few other notes:
  - Please read the Overview document that is included in the LTCH Data Specs DRAFT .zip file. For successful submission of files, this is a must-read. It provides specifics on XML file structure and .zip file requirements. We have experienced issues in other settings where providers are unable to get submission files accepted by the ASAP system due to vendor software not following the file requirements identified in this Overview document. It is a very important document to read.

- After reviewing the Overview document, the detailed data specifications, and the errata, please send questions to the LTCH technical issues email mailbox. The address for this mailbox is included at the end of these meeting minutes under 'important resources.'

Validation Utility Tool ....John Jackson, GDIT

- CMS will provide a Validation Utility Tool (VUT) for vendors to test their software against most submission system edits.

- 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.
- The VUT is scheduled to be available on the QTSO website on May 5, 2014.

Discussion of Submitted Q & A's ....Lori Grocholski, CMS
No vendor questions were submitted prior to this call.

Open Q and A Session ....Lori Grocholski, CMS

Question	Answer/By Whom
The most recent rule said flu vaccine data will only be collected October 1 through April 30. Will there be changes in the submission data specs to handle that? What months will the vaccine items be active/available?	Dave Malitz said the item will be active all year. The rest of the question is policy-related. Please send it to the technical LTCH mailbox and Lori will forward to the appropriate party for an answer.
Will edit 3900 be applied to the new Section O vaccination questions about payment reduction?	Please send the question to the technical LTCH mailbox and Lori Grocholski will forward to the appropriate party for an answer.
Please confirm the following: the version of the form to be submitted is matched to the target date. For example, target dates of June 30 and prior use version 1.01 and target dates of July 1 and later use the new version. It is not related to the patient admission, but the target date on the assessment.	Dave Malitz confirmed the information shared is correct.

Closing Comments ....Lori Grocholski, CMS

Thank you for attending today's call. Please note and visit the important website resources listed below. Send any technical questions to the LTCH Technical mailbox, also listed below, and we will respond to your questions.

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 Overview & Announcements

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

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