

CMS Hospice Software Developer/Vendor Call

Minutes

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00a.m. (ET)

Conference Call Number: 1-866-458-4949

Conference code: 299 76 314

Welcome -----Liz McKenna

- Welcome and thank you for joining our Hospice software developer/vendor call related to the Hospice Data submission of the Hospice Item Set (HIS).
- On this call, we will cover the Hospice Technical Data Submission Specification v2.01.0 updates, VUT information, and submitted Q and As relating to the April 1, 2018 release. If time allows we will have an open Q and A session at the end of this call.
- If you do not have the agenda for this call, it may be found at <https://www.qtso.com> the Vendors link on the left navigation bar then the Hospice link in the navigation bar at the top of the page.
- Please note that CMS policies related to the Hospice Item Set (HIS) are not the focus of the vendor calls.
- I will now turn it over to John Jackson. John will review the technical data submission specification updates for HIS software creation and submission, as well as upcoming VUT changes.

Data Submission Specification Updates ----- John Jackson

- A new, DRAFT version of the HIS Data Specifications was posted on the CMS Web Site on April 27, 2017. The version number is 2.01.0. These data specifications go into effect on April 1, 2018.
- We have three new items in the specs; however, the good news is that you probably don't have to care, as these items are in the Calculation section and used by CMS internally. They were added to support the upcoming transition from Medicare Number to Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI).
- Speaking of which, we do have a new edit that replaces two existing edits. Edit -3078 replaces edits -3005 and -3006 for validating item A0600B. It allows for either the current Medicare Number to be entered in A0600B, OR to enter the new MBI value. Effective April 1, 2018, we will be in a transition period where CMS will be accepting either identifier for A0600B. The transition period is currently scheduled to conclude at the end of 2019, after which time only the MBI will be accepted.
- Please continue to check the HIS Technical Information web page for any future updates...and to see when the DRAFT specs go to FINAL.

Validation Utility Tool ----- John Jackson

- As you might suspect, the Hospice VUT will be updated to reflect the Version 2.01.0 data submission spec changes. Since Version 2.01.0 goes into effect on April 1, 2018, you can expect to see the VUT sometime in February 2018. As always, support for past spec versions will continue to be there.
- There is one big functional change – the VUT will no longer perform lookups for ICD codes. Note that if you have been using the VUT in standalone mode with the ICD parameter, the VUT will still work – I left the parameter in for backward compatibility – however, the ICD will only be validated for format, not against the official ICD list in effect for the applicable assessment date.

ASAP System Enhancements ----- Julie Ellingson

- The ASAP system will edit records with a target date on or after April 1, 2018 using the version 2.01 of the data specifications. It will continue to edit records with a target date prior to April 1, 2018 using the appropriate set of data specifications in effect for the target date of the submitted record. The target date is the admission date on an admission record and the discharge date on a discharge record.
- The ASAP system will include the new MBI edit. Beginning April 1, 2018, the Health Insurance Claim Number or HICN, Railroad Retirement Board number or RRB or the Medicare Beneficiary ID or MBI can be submitted in item A0600B (Medicare Number). Following the end of the SSNRI transition period, which is currently December 31, 2019, the ASAP system will reject any Hospice record that contains a value other than the MBI in item A0600B.

Q and A from Hospice Mailbox -----Liz McKenna

There were no questions submitted prior to the meeting.

Open Q and A Session -----Liz McKenna

There were no questions during the call. Please email the Hospice Technical Issues mailbox at HOSPICETECHNICALISSUES@cms.hhs.gov if you have any questions.

Important Resources

QTSO.com

<https://www.qtso.com>

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

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

CMS.gov - Hospice Quality Reporting

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

CMS.gov - Spotlight & Announcements

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

CMS.gov - HIS Technical Information

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Hospice-Quality-Reporting/HIS-Technical-Information.html>

CMS.gov - Details for CMS Form Number: CMS-10390 (Hospice Item Set)

<http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing-Items/CMS1252151.html?DLPage=1&DLSort=1&DLSortDir=descending>

Email - Hospice Technical Issues

HOSPICETECHNICALISSUES@cms.hhs.gov

Listserv

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