

## CMS IRF-PAI Software Developer/Vendor Call Minutes

March 14, 2019

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. ET

Conference Line: 1-877-267-1577

Conference code: 992 122 790

### **Welcome.....Brandy Barnette, CMS**

Welcome to the CMS IRF Software Developer / Vendor call. The purpose of this call is to provide information to IRF Software Developers and Vendors who are creating or have created software for IRF providers. The purpose of this call is to provide information on IRF updates that will be effective October 1, 2019.

If you do not have the agenda for this call, it may be found at <https://qtso.cms.gov> and click on the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF-PAI) Vendors link under the “I’m a Vendor” tab in the middle of the page.

### **Data Submission Specification Updates ..... John Jackson, GDIT**

A new set of Draft Data Specifications, version 4.00.0, was posted on the CMS IRF PPS Data Specifications web page. These specs go into effect on October 1, 2019. This DRAFT version supports Version 3.0 of the IRF-PAI.

So what’s new? Wrong question, it’s more a question of what’s old. ☺ The big news in this spec version is the removal of the FIM items (29-39) **and** the flu-related items (O0250). So...less data entry! As you might expect, this resulted in the deletion of a few edits that were associated only with these items.

What else is new? Edit -1130 will be going away at the end of this calendar year and replaced by edit -1131. The transition period will have ended, and only the Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) format will be accepted for item 2 (Patient Medicare Number).

There are also five items which will receive APU warning edit -5004 if a dash is entered: H0400, I0900, I2900, 25A and 26A.

Ramifications of these changes? The logic to the CMG is changing, since it referenced FIM items. It will now reference quality indicator items instead. The documentation for the new CMG will be posted later in the spring, so you can read how it will work. The new CMG DLL will be posted in the summer at its usual time, as we need to see if adjustments are needed due to ICD changes. NOTE: The interface to the DLL will not change, just the internal logic.

As always, please continue to check the data specs web page for any updates.

### **Validation Utility Tool (VUT) updates..... John Jackson, GDIT**

As usual, the IRF VUT will be updated to reflect the new V4.00.0 data specs, while continuing to support the assessments of the past (for modifications or inactivations). No functional changes are on

the to-do list, so it will continue to operate as in the past. In fact, the first pass at the 2019 changes has already been made, and preliminary testing is underway! The IRF VUT is scheduled to be posted in early August.

**iQIES Updates ..... Chris Grose, CMS**

CMS is in the process of developing an enhancement to the current assessment submission & processing and reporting systems, referred to as QIES ASAP and CASPER. The enhanced system will be referred to as iQIES, the Internet Quality Improvement Evaluation System. The process that providers follow for submitting assessments will not change but the enhanced system will allow for greater efficiencies, as it will be Internet facing and will allow providers to submit assessments and view associated reports in one place. The first release is scheduled to occur next week, on March 20<sup>th</sup> and will be rolled out to LTCHs first. We have started development for IRF and we plan on rolling out iQIES to IRFs in October 2019. We will be sending targeted communications to IRF providers and general information to all post-acute care providers through the QRP Listservs and point of contact distribution lists in the next several months. If you have any questions, you can send them to:

[iQIES\\_Broadcast@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:iQIES_Broadcast@cms.hhs.gov).

**Discussion of Submitted Q & A's.....Brandy Barnette, CMS**

**Open Q and A Session.....Brandy Barnette, CMS**

**Closing Comments.....Brandy Barnette, CMS**

Thank you for attending the call and keeping updated on future changes to IRF



## Important Resources

### QTSO Website

<https://qtso.cms.gov/>

<https://qtso.cms.gov/vendors/>

<https://qtso.cms.gov/vendors/inpatient-rehabilitation-facility-irf-pai-vendors>

### CMS.gov - IRF Quality Reporting

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/IRF-Quality-Reporting/index.html>

### CMS.gov - IRF Technical Information

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/TechInfo.html>

### CMS.gov - IRF Software Information

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/InpatientRehabFacPPS/Software.html>

### CMS.gov – IRF PPS Revisions

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/fiscal-year-2019-medicare-inpatient-rehabilitation-facility-prospective-payment-system-final-rule>

### Email - IRF Technical Issues

[IRFTECHIssues@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:IRFTECHIssues@cms.hhs.gov)

### Listserv

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